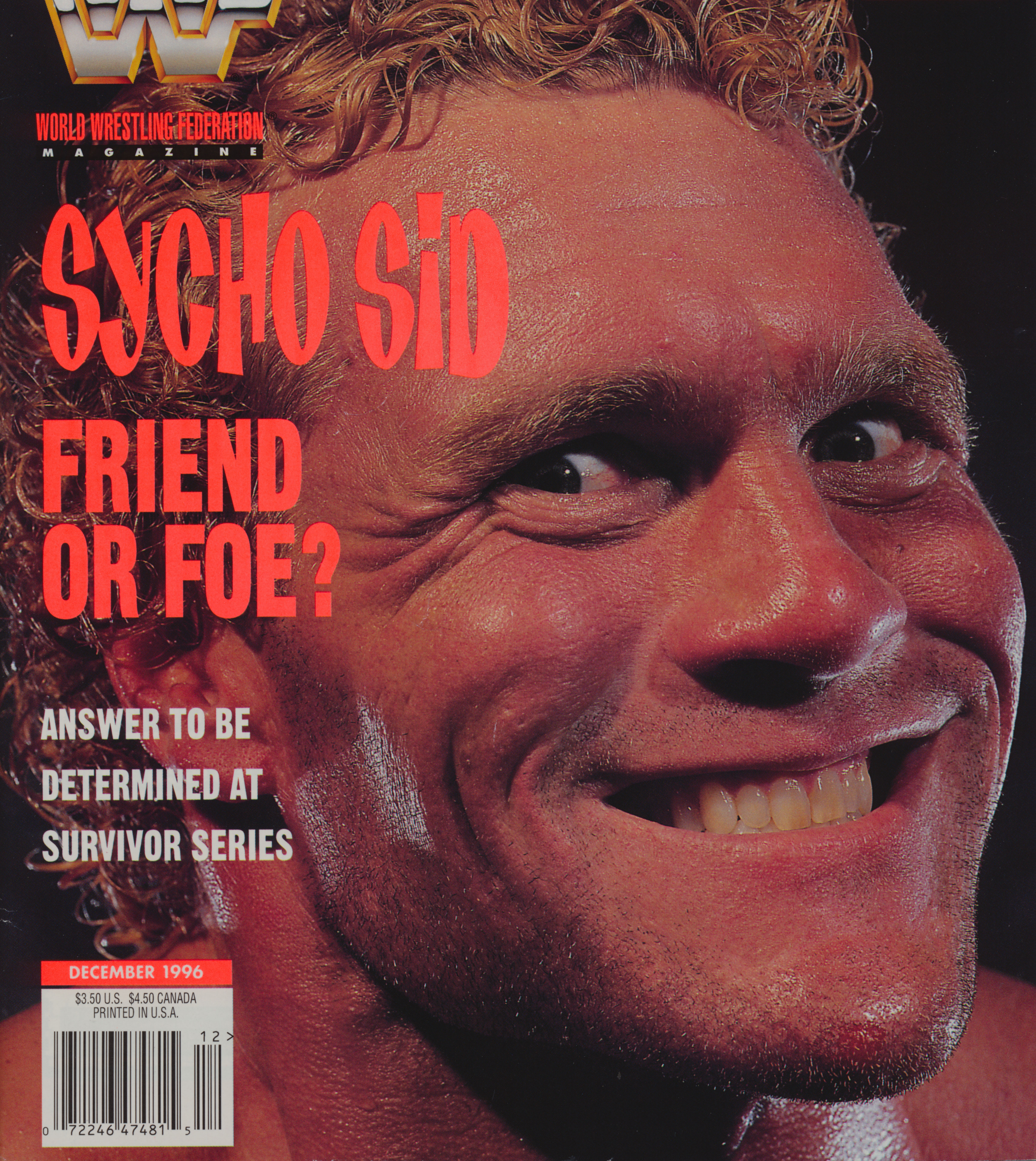
THE TRUTH BEHIND BRET'S RETURN

WWF
WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION®
MAGAZINE



SYCHO SID

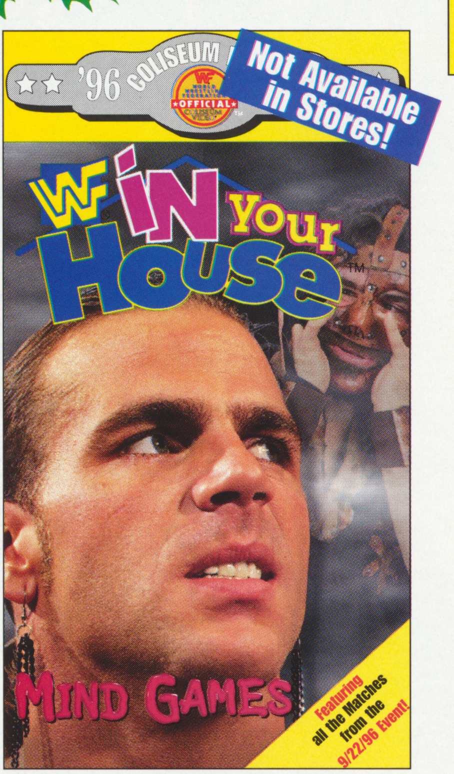
FRIEND OR FOE?

ANSWER TO BE DETERMINED AT SURVIVOR SERIES

DECEMBER 1996
$3.50 U.S. $4.50 CANADA
PRINTED IN U.S.A.
12 >
0 72246 47481 5

Stuff Your Stockings!

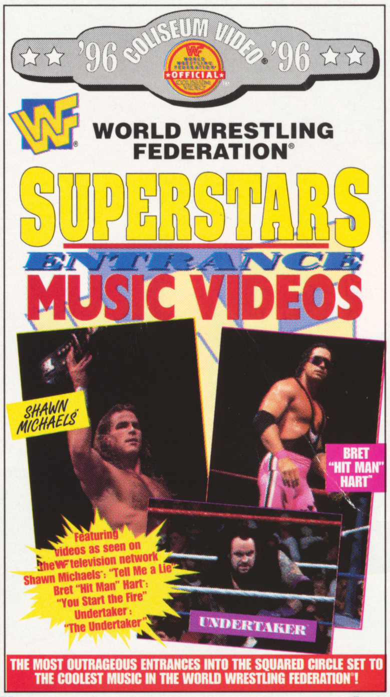
3 Great Deals!


'96 COLISEUM
Not Available in Stores!
In Your House™
MIND GAMES
Featuring all the Matches from the 9/22/96 Event!

In Your House™ Mind Games, contains all the matches from the 9/22/96 event! Featuring: Champion Shawn Michaels™ vs. Mankind™! Undertaker™ vs. Goldust™ Mark Henry™ vs. Jerry "The King" Lawler™...Plus much more! Approx: 2hrs

Deal #1 + FREE Gift

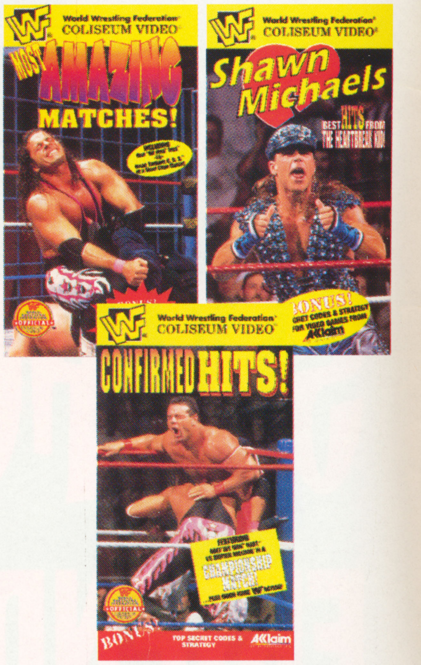
ONLY $39.95ea.


'96 COLISEUM VIDEO '96
OFFICIAL
WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION®
SUPERSTARS
ENTRANCE
MUSIC VIDEOS
SHAWN MICHAELS
BRET "HIT MAN" HART
Featuring videos as seen on the WF television network Shawn Michaels': "Tell Me a Lie" Bret "Hit Man" Hart': "You Start the Fire" Undertaker: "The Undertaker"
UNDERTAKER
THE MOST OUTRAGEOUS ENTRANCES INTO THE SQUARED CIRCLE SET TO THE COOLEST MUSIC IN THE WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION®!

The most outrageous entrances into the squared circle set to the coolest music in the World Wrestling Federation® Approx: 45mins

Deal #2 + FREE Gift

ONLY $19.95ea.


World Wrestling Federation COLISEUM VIDEO
MOST AMAZING MATCHES!
Shawn Michaels
BEST HITS FROM THE HEARTBREAK KID!
CONFIRMED HITS!
BONUS!
Acclaim

SPECIAL HOLIDAY DEAL!
Most Amazing Matches!, Shawn Michaels & Confirmed Hits!

All 3 cassettes for just $29.95
Not sold separately!
Running time: 60 Mins each
offer good thru 2/28/97

Deal #3 + FREE Gift

ORDER YOUR VIDEOS TODAY!

MG#11

Please send ______ copies of **WF In Your House™ Mind Games** (WF507)- $39.95 U.S.
Please send ______ copies of **WF Entrance Music Video** (WS937)- $19.95 U.S.
Please send ______ copies of **WF Holiday Gift Pack** (WF508)- $29.95 U.S.

☐ **CHECK** or **MONEY ORDER**: enclosed plus **$5.00** Shipping & handling (flat rate) per order.
Make checks payable to: ***A & H VIDEO SALES***

☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ DISCOVER (VHS only!)

Account Number______________________ Exp. Date__________
Name______________________
Address______________________ Apt. #__________
City______________ State________ Zip__________
Signature______________________ Phone (______)__________
AREA CODE

Canadian pricing: U.S. $39.95 Can. $59.95

All Orders Received by 12/20/96 will be Delivered Before Christmas!

EXTENDED HOLIDAY HOURS! CALL 201-808-1818

______ Total number of video cassettes
______ Sub-total
$5.00 Shipping & handling (FLAT RATE)
______ NY residents please add sales tax
______ Total enclosed

http://www.wwfcolvid.com

* Canada residents send total amount plus 7% G.S.T.; Ontario residents must include additional 8% provincial sales tax. NY residents please add applicable sales tax.
We can only ship video cassettes to the U.S. and Canada.
Please allow 7 - 10 days for delivery. If paying by check allow 3 - 4 weeks for delivery.

To order by **mail**, use the coupon above and send to: **A & H VIDEO SALES** P.O. Box 1311 • West Caldwell, NJ 07007-1311 *Please Do Not Send Cash!*
To order by **phone** using **Visa**, **Mastercard** or **Discover** call: **(201) 808-1818** *Btwn. 9am & 5pm EST.* Or **fax** us your order! Call: (201)575-1272...***ASK ABOUT 2nd DAY DELIVERY***

© 1996 Titan Sports, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Package Design & Summary © 1996 Evart Enterprises, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Photos: Titan Sports, Inc.

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION®
MAGAZINE

VOL. 15 NO. 12

contents

FEATURES

16 **STANDING IN THE LINE OF FIRE**
And Faarooq Is Loving It!

24 **THE TRUTH BEHIND THE RETURN**
Why Bret Is "Really" Coming Back!

30 **LEADER OF THE NEW REVOLUTION!**
Ladies And Gentlemen, Brian Pillman

36 **YET MORE... SUNNY DELIGHTS!**

42 **FORGET BROTHERLY LOVE!**
In Your House Rocks Philly

51 **THE KING AND THE DOG**
Can They Live Happily Ever After?

55 **OH, HENRY!**
The Power And The Passion Of Mark Henry

60 **ONLY THE STRONG WILL SURVIVE!**
1996 *Survivor Series* Preview

24

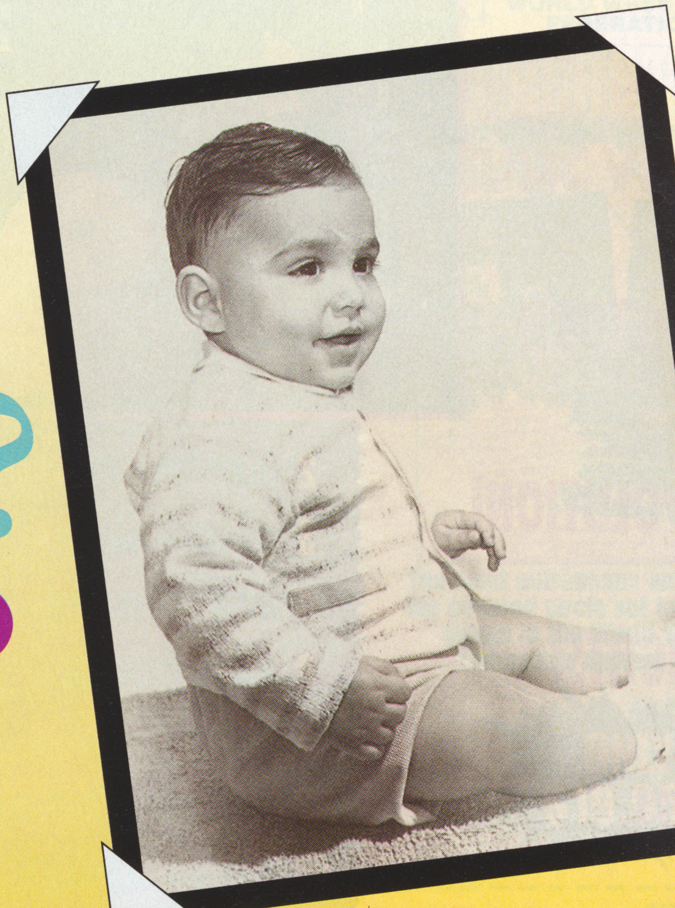
2 *SECRET SUPERSTAR*
3 *FEDERATION FANATICS*
4 *LETTERS TO THE EDITOR*
6 *ROOKIES TO LEGENDS*
8 *THE BITE*
12 *TALES FROM THE TURNBUCKLE*
66 *BARRED FROM THE BACK*

16

68 *PIN 'EM DOWN*
70 *PRIVATE EYE*
72 *SCOOP SULLIVAN*

CAN YOU GUESS THE SECRET SUPERSTAR

As a child, this month's Secret Superstar got a "D" in conduct in kindergarten! All his teachers said he was "UNTAMED"!



HINTS:

1. While other kids wanted to go to Disney World or Great Adventure growing up, this month's Secret Superstar wanted to vacation in the Amazon!
2. In high school, this month's Secret Superstar's first car was a fiery red 1965 Ford Mustang with flames going down the side! Why? Because it drove the girls WILD!
3. This month's Secret Superstar won the Golden Gloves Title in amateur boxing before he got into the field of sports-entertainment. Even in his early fist-a-cuff days he had the reputation of being an ANIMAL in the ring!
4. When he performs his finishing maneuver, this month's Secret Superstar will not only MAKE YOUR HEART SING, but he will also make EVERYTHING GROOVY!

THE SECRET SUPERSTAR IS: ______________________

ANSWER ON PAGE 72

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION®
MAGAZINE

Editor-in-Chief
Vince Russo

Technical Advisor
Howard Finkel

Creative Director
Mary Mieszczanski

Art Director
Daniel Cultice

Production Manager
Brad Sagendorf

Copy Editor
Janet Simms

Field Editor
Keith Elliot Greenberg

Staff Photographer
Tom Buchanan

Senior Photo Editor
Noah Wilker

Vice President, Sales
James A. Rothschild

…………

Advertising Director
Craig Cassanelli

Account Development Coordinator
Lisa Fox

1241 East Main Street
Stamford, CT 06902
(203) 352-8600

World Wrestling Federation Magazine, The Official Publication of the World Wrestling Federation (ISSN 8756-7792. USPS 720-450) is published monthly by TitanSports, Inc., 1241 East Main Street, Stamford, CT 06902, and published in Canada by Titan Promotions Inc. (GST No. R121896385), 2 Lansing Square, Suite 502, Willowdale, Ontario, Canada M2J 4P8. Basic subscription rates are $24 for 12 issues and $35 for 24 issues for U.S. and U.S. possessions. Canadian rates are $43 for 12 issues and $68 for 24 issues including 7% GST. Foreign rates are $38.40 for 12 issues and $70.80 for 24 issues. ALL ORDERS ARE PAYABLE IN U.S. FUNDS ONLY. NO FOREIGN CREDIT ORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED. Periodical Postage paid at Stamford, CT, and other additional mailing offices. Third-Class Mail Enclosed. All editions applicable. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION MAGAZINE, Post Office Box 420172, Palm Coast, FL 32142-0172. Printed by R.R. Donnelley & Sons, Mattoon, Illinois Manufacturing Division. Distributed by Kable News Company Inc., 11 West 42nd St., New York, NY 10036.

® World Wrestling Federation, its logo, WrestleMania and all other distinctive titles and names used herein are trademarks of TitanSports, Inc. The Ultimate Warrior is the trademark of Ultimate Creations, Inc., licensed to TitanSports, Inc. The entire contents of this publication are copyright 1996 by TitanSports, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Nothing in this issue may be reproduced in any manner without the express written consent of TitanSports, Inc. TitanSports, Inc., is not responsible for unsolicited material sent to us.

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

BPA International Consumer Magazine Membership

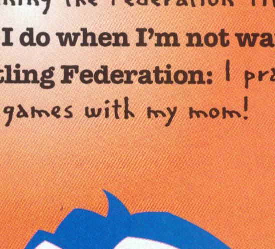
BPA INTERNATIONAL®

For subscriptions and customer service call (904) 445-4320

FEDERATION FANatics

Name: Claire Johnson
Age: 14
Hometown: Hull, United Kingdom
Grade: Ninth
Future Ambition: To travel through the United States with Shawn Michaels
Favorite Federation Superstar: Shawn Michaels
Least Favorite Federation Superstar: British Bulldog
What I like best about the World Wrestling Federation: The excellent international tours!
If I were president of the World Wrestling Federation, I would: Get my entire family ringside seats at every Federation Pay-Per-View!
What I do when I'm not watching the World Wrestling Federation: I collect Federation merchandise and listen to Shawn's entrance music!

Name: Santana Sirizzotti
Age: 6
Hometown: Bangkok, Thailand
School: St. Christopher Elementary School
Grade: First
Future Ambition: To become a concert pianist
Favorite Federation Superstar: Bret "Hit Man" Hart
Least Favorite Federation Superstar: Owen Hart
What I like best about the World Wrestling Federation: All the action of Monday Night RAW!
If I were president of the World Wrestling Federation, I would: Let Bret Hart have another shot at winning the Federation Title for a fourth time!
What I do when I'm not watching the World Wrestling Federation: I practice the piano and play board games with my mom!



Questions, Comm

There is no time limit!!

World Wrestling Federation Magazine Interactive is a no-time-limit, no-holds-barred, communicative channel where you can connect with the Federation any day or night in order to bodyslam us with your opinions and views! We've opened up the ring ropes to offer you many lines of communication. Whether it be by fax, phone, E-mail or post office, our cauliflower ears are open to you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week! So, don't be a ham-n-egger!!! Spill your ideas, and voice your opinions—WE WANT TO HEAR 'EM!

How to reach us!!

For subscription questions, orders, renewals and change-of-address requests, call 904-445-4320.

To reach the editor, use any of the methods listed below:

FAX your comments, questions and suggestions to:
203-359-5118

E-MAIL us at the following Internet address:
WWFEDITOR@AOL.COM

WRITE us at:
World Wrestling Federation Magazine,
c/o Vince Russo, Editor,
P.O. Box 3859,
Stamford, CT 06905.

Letter:

Dear Editor,
The "El Sid" story in the October issue was awesome! However, I am very disappointed that Sid has not gotten a shot at the Federation Title yet! With the Chokeslam and the Powerbomb, he could be the greatest Champion of all time! I don't know what Gorilla Monsoon is thinking, but Sycho Sid definitely deserves his chance at glory!

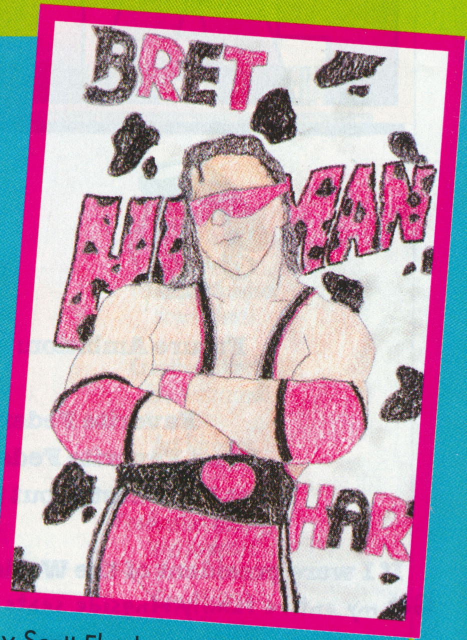
Zachary Cohen
New York, NY

Dear Zach,
I couldn't agree with you more. In my opinion Sid may very well be not only the most underrated superstar in the World Wrestling Federation, but perhaps the most underrated superstar in the history of the sport! Sooner or later Sid will get his shot at the Federation Title, because if he continues to cut through opponents like a hot knife through butter, Gorilla Monsoon isn't going to have a choice in the matter!

E-mail:

Dear Editor,
I recently got the October '96 issue of the *World Wrestling Federation Magazine* and I read Part I of the interview you did with Ahmed Johnson. I must say that I was very moved! I could hardly believe what he was saying! It really gets you in the heart when you read something like that. To be honest, it made me mad knowing his mother did nothing to help him! It amazes me how he eventually made it through all of that, and became a World Wrestling Federation superstar!

baarhasselbach@nohio.com



By Scott Fletcher

Dear B.H. BACH (I don't know what else to call you!),
Everything you said about Ahmed Johnson is absolutely true! His story of the will to survive was, and still is, absolutely amazing! Forget becoming a Federation superstar—it's mind boggling to me that Ahmed is even ALIVE and able to tell his story! I hope Ahmed's interview can provide hope to millions of people throughout the world. The fact is, that was his sole reason for wanting to speak out in the first place!

Fax:

Dear Editor,
After reading the October issue of the magazine with Goldust and Mankind on the cover, I have one thing to say to Vic

ents and gossip

INTERACTIN' WITH THE WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION

Venom: GET A LIFE! Where does Vic get off saying all that stuff about Shawn and the KLIQ? I don't see Vic getting in the ring and challenging anyone! Shawn has gone to the top here in the Federation and won the title, something Venom can only dream about! Vic should look in the mirror before he tells someone else how to run their life!

Justin Searcy
Seattle, WA

DEAR LOSER,
RUSSO—TAKE A WALK!!!
LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHIN', PEE-WEE!!! YOU WISH YOU HAD MY LIFE!

I LOOK IN THE MIRROR EVERY DAY, AND I LOVE WHAT I SEE! AS A MATTER OF FACT, I CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF MYSELF!!! IF HOME DEPOT WASN'T SO !@#$% EXPENSIVE, I'D MIRROR MY ENTIRE MANSION JUST SO I COULD ENJOY THE VIEW, MORNING, NOON AND NIGHT!!! WHAT YOU NEED, SON, IS AN ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT!!! IN OTHER WORDS, A GOOD, SWIFT KLIQ IN THE @#$!
VENOM

Letter:

Dear Editor,
After reading "The Kid Beneath His Wings" in the October issue, it only reassured me that Shawn Michaels is truly the most inspirational wrestler today in the World Wrestling Federation. The one thing that he tells everyone is to never give up on your dreams—and that's exactly what he did at *WrestleMania XII*. It hurts me when I hear all these things people (such as Jim Cornette and Mankind) say about him. I would love to be in his corner for a Championship match and then I could show the world what a true hero is!

Rebekah Lainen
Thunder Bay, Ontario, CN

Dear Rebekah,
DITTO, DITTO, DITTO!!!
P.S. I wouldn't worry too much about what Jim Cornette has to say. He's probably just disappointed that he had to give up on his dream. He didn't have enough money in his bank account to buy that Wendy's franchise.

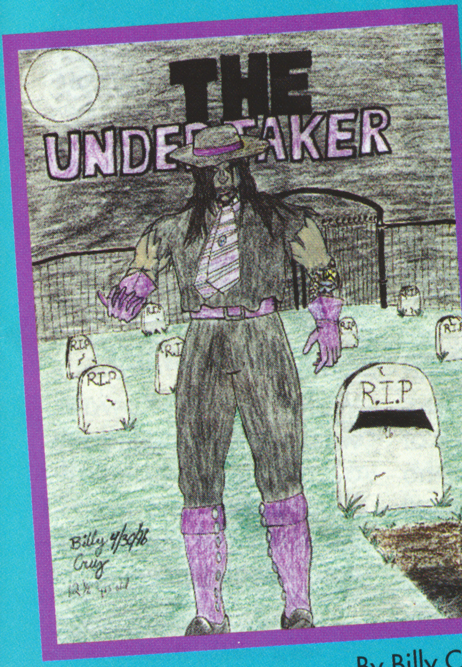
E-mail:

Dear Editor,
I love the *World Wrestling Federation Magazine* and I've been reading it for a long time now, but don't you think it's time to show Sunny she can't always have what she wants? As a matter of fact, why not get rid of her on the Cheesecake Calendar? I mean, either Marlena or Sable should get a shot at that section! Sunny has spent WAY too long adorning the pages of the magazine! How does she get so much pull between the pages anyway?

JPatten@Foxcroft.
PTV.K12.ME.US

Dear J. Patten,

NO COMMENT.
THE EDITOR



By Billy Cruz

CALL THE WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION SUPERSTAR HOTLINE AT
1-900-737-4WWF
$1.49 per minute.
Must be 18 years of age or have parents' permission.

- FEDERATION TRIVIA: OPTION 1
- DAILY SUPERSTAR INTERVIEW: OPTION 2
- FEDERATION ADVENTURE GAME: OPTION 3
- THE GREAT VIC VENOM: OPTION 4
- INTERACTIVE WRESTLING GAME: OPTION 5
- ROSS REPORT: OPTION 6
- CANADIAN REPORT: OPTION 7
- IN YOUR HOUSE POST-MATCH COMMENTS: OPTION 8

Rookies to LEGENDS

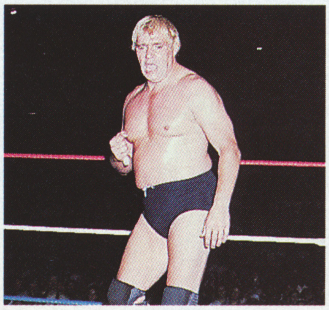
HEROES OF YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW

No one will ever forget the life of the greatest legend to ever step his giant foot into the ring. He was known by many names, but he truly was a "gentle giant" to every fan who had the opportunity to meet him. Today, even though he may not be with us physically, the late Andre the Giant's spirit lives on everywhere, most notably on the World Wrestling Federation Hall of Fame "wall" that takes up a large portion of the fourth floor at the World Wrestling Federation Headquarters in Stamford, Connecticut. This November, a day before the *Survivor Series*, more superstars will enter the Hall not as enemies who once beat each other to a pulp, but as athletes who can look back together with joy and happiness on the sport they excelled in.

The list of inductees for the 1996 World Wrestling Federation Hall of Fame ceremony could be compared to that of the "All Madden Team" in the NFL. The names—which bring back memories of the earlier days of the World Wide Wrestling Federation (WWWF), with the exception of Jimmy Snuka—include Jimmy and Johnny, the Valiant Brothers; Pat Patterson; Killer Kowalski; Baron Mikel Scicluna; Jimmy "Superfly" Snuka; Captain Lou Albano and the man responsible for it all... Vincent J. McMahon. Here are some highlights of the legends entering the Hall of Fame:

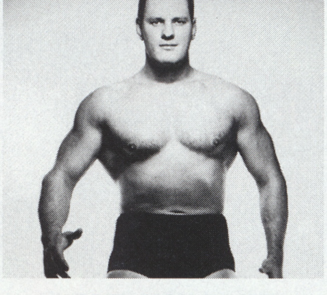
THE VALIANT BROTHERS

If there ever was a flamboyant tag team in the history of the Federation, "Handsome" Jimmy and "Luscious" Johnny Valiant were just that. During the decade of the 70s, these men virtually owned the tag team ranks—proving it with the WWWF Tag Team Title securely around their waists for many of those years. Managed by Captain Lou Albano, the Valiants truly put the "show" in "showboat", captivating fans with their originality and outspoken ways in the ring. Just as many "brother" teams often do, Jimmy and Johnny succeeded because of their teamwork. They always seemed to be thinking alike, staying one step ahead of both opponents AND referees! These New York-born and reared brothers had epic mat wars with Tony Garea and Dean Ho in the mid-70s—labeled "classics" by their peers at the time. The Hall of Fame needed a tag team for the ages? Well, they will have it when the Valiant Brothers enter the Hall this month!



PAT PATTERSON

This blond-haired legend in the ranks of the Federation was always a stick of dynamite in the ring—no matter who his opponent was that given night. Patterson made his first appearance in the WWWF in January of 1977, meeting Baron Mikel Scicluna in the one arena that Patterson ruled—Madison Square Garden. He is the ONLY man to wrestle for the Federation Title at Madison Square Garden four times in one calendar year... a feat that no one else has accomplished to this day. After joining the Federation full-time in 1979, Patterson became the first-ever Intercontinental Champion after he defeated Antonio Inoki in the final match of a tournament in Rio de Janeiro. One of Patterson's most notable rivals was Sgt. Slaughter, with whom he had a bloodfest in the Garden in the early 80s. After retiring from the ring, Patterson began a career in broadcasting with the Federation. Among his other accomplishments, Patterson was the special guest referee for the first *WrestleMania* main event and the Lawrence Taylor-Bam Bam Bigelow match at *WrestleMania XI*.



KILLER KOWALSKI

Walter "Killer" Kowalski was pound-for-pound one of the most naturally rugged wrestlers ever in the history of the Federation. Highly gifted in the tactics of brawling, Kowalski was a co-holder of the Federation Tag Team Title with Federation president Gorilla Monsoon in the mid-1960s. Another fact very few realize is that Kowalski also held that same title under a mask as Executioner #1, teaming with Executioner #2—who was in fact the late great Big John Studd. After competing in the singles ranks of the Federation, Kowalski soon found himself involved in many brutal mat wars with the likes of the late great Andre the Giant and the short-tempered Pedro Morales. His unorthodox finishing hold, the Stomach Claw, was feared by all his opponents. Retired and living the good life now, Kowalski runs a wrestling school in a suburb of Boston, Massachusetts.

BARON MIKEL SCICLUNA

From the "celebrated" Isle of Malta, the Baron is a former co-holder of the WWWF Tag Team Title in the early 70s with King Curtis Iaukea. Despite his success in the tag team ranks, Scicluna was far more recognized for his ability as a singles competitor in his career. No matter whether he pinned his rival to the mat or took home the loser's purse on any given night, the Baron always gave it 100%. Tagged as the "Master of the Foreign Object", Scicluna was at times a walking hardware store according to the many opponents he faced! Scicluna's object of choice was a roll of coins, which he used quite often to knock his rivals silly! Scicluna never quite made it to the top of the Federation, but he will always be remembered as a superstar who was rawboned and rugged!

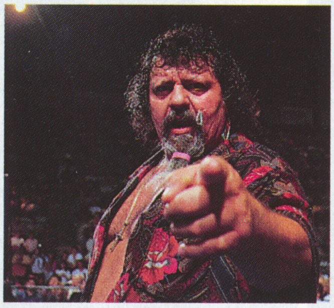
VINCENT J. McMAHON

In the days of the World Wide Wrestling Federation, Vincent J. McMahon was known as THE premier promoter across the globe.

His handling of the superstars at that time was truly awe inspiring, as many looked to him for guidance and advice—both of which he was happy to give. McMahon, through hard work and dedication, was able to bring the Federation to the same level of recognition as that of professional basketball, football and baseball! The WWWF's "mecca" during this time was Madison Square Garden, where his picture hangs respectfully in its Hall of Fame. Upon his retirement from the sport, Vincent J. McMahon handed the Federation over to his son, Vincent K. McMahon, who continues to honor the legacy that his father set while operating the Federation.

"SUPERFLY" JIMMY SNUKA

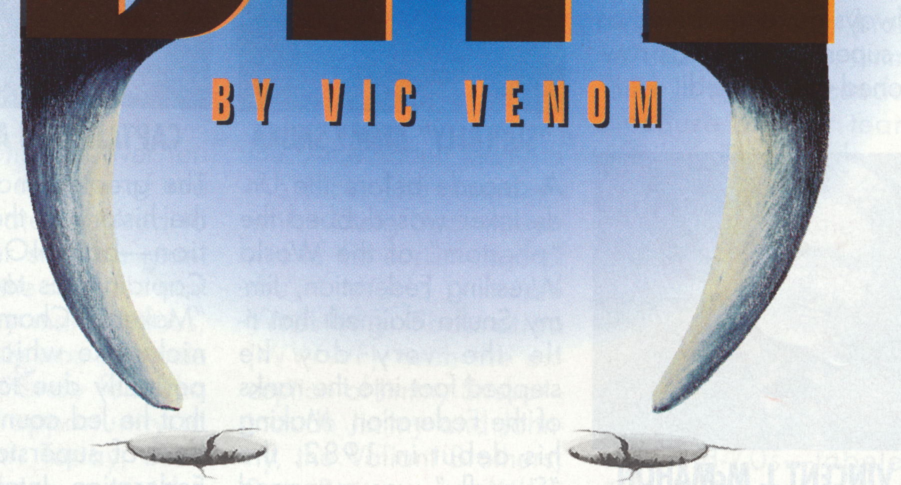
A decade before the Undertaker was dubbed the "phenom" of the World Wrestling Federation, Jimmy Snuka claimed that title the very day he stepped foot into the ranks of the Federation. Making his debut in 1982, the "Superfly" was managed also by Captain Lou Albano, but unfortunately the two soon split and Albano's managerial duties were taken over by former Federation Champion Buddy Rogers. Although he was quite aggressive during his ring wars, Snuka was loved by all fans for his breathtaking maneuvers—for example, the night he climbed to the top of a steel cage in Madison Square Garden and came down on a prone Don Muraco—a sight few of those who saw it will ever forget. Perhaps the most notorious moment in Snuka's career came when he was part of the "coconut incident" on *Piper's Pit*, when the wild Scot smashed a coconut over the Superfly's head. Snuka never won a title in the Federation, but he didn't need one. He was and continues to be one of the most recognized combatants ever in sports-entertainment.



CAPTAIN LOU ALBANO

The greatest manager in the history of the Federation—bar NONE! The Captain was tagged the "Maker of Champions", a nickname which fit him perfectly due to the fact that he led countless numbers of superstars to the Federation, Intercontinental and Tag Team Titles. Although Albano was hated with a passion by the fans in his earlier days in the Federation, they soon grew to love and admire the eccentric Albano for his outlandish and outspoken ways in and out of the ring. The Captain was perhaps most recognized for his part in the era known as "Rock 'N' Wrestling", where he and rock star Cyndi Lauper teamed to bring the Federation into the world of the MTV generation! Historic managers may come and go in the ranks of the sport, but none will ever be as successful or beloved by the fans as the one and only Captain Lou Albano!

THE BITE



BY VIC VENOM

WARNING!!! THE OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THIS COMMENTARY ARE—IN NO WAY, SHAPE OR FORM—THOSE OF THE WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION OR TITAN SPORTS.

Let me shoot straight from the hip. I've never in my life—at any time—had an idol. Being the Great Vic Venom, there hasn't been and never will be anybody that I want to, or wanted to, emulate (look it up—learn something). I mean, just pierce those pupils on me! The sight is stunning! The GQ beauty, the brilliant brains and, of course, the bodacious "bod". Without sounding immodest, I AM SIMPLY SPECTACULAR!!! Really something special!

However, that has all changed! I have found an idol! You may know him as Jim Ross, but his closest personal friends know him as ol' J. R.! That's right, kids! The good ol' country bumpkin with the word "WELCOME" tattooed across his chubby chest! Ah yes, for years and years people have wiped their feet on ol' J. R., but now they're gonna have to take their shoes off at the door because ol' J. R. isn't gonna be kicked around anymore.

What Ross did on *Monday Night Raw* a few weeks back was by far the best thing that I've ever seen on television! I mean, it blew away Pamela Lee running on a beach, for goodness sake! Not to mention Charlie's Angels, Chrissy Snow and Jeannie! The personal attack on Vince McMahon was poetry in motion. Ross nailed Vince McMahon so hard, so often that Vinnie Mac's unborn grandchildren had to feel the blows!!! Man, it was GREAT!!! HOWEVER... does the Great Vic Venom believe everything that Ross had to say about The Boss? Well, being as HE SIGNS my paycheck, I'm gonna have to say... NO!!!

Now, don't get me wrong. I do believe some of the things that Ross said. For instance, whether you know it or not, Connecticut IS A HELL HOLE!!! It's over-priced, over-crowded and filled with over-self-indulgent MORONS!!! I know, I LIVE IN THIS STINKIN' STATE. For the price of a gallon of gas in the Constitution State, you could feed a family of four in NEBRASKA! I also believe Jim Ross when he says that upon his return to the World Wrestling Federation he was paid "fifty cents on the dollar". I mean, when you look at how the dude dresses, there has to be some validity to that. With all due respect, Jimbo, your polyester suits aren't exactly Armani's... if you know what I mean!!!

Being the fair journalist that I am, it's now time to flip that coin and look at the other side. Now, I'm not one to make light of anyone's inflections, BUT I have to take Vince's defense when it comes to this Bell's Palsy thing. In his soliloquy (look it up—learn something else), Ross barked that McMahon fired him because he was suffering from this Bell's Palsy, which somewhat disfigured his face—or at least disfigured it more than it already was. Now, Jimbo, nothing personal, but I have to side with Vinnie Mac on this one. Big guy, you're no pleasure to look at on TV for even 15 minutes, let alone an hour! I mean, you have one eye over here and the other down in Ft. Lauderdale somewhere! Now, I'm not saying you belong in a bell tower at Notre Dame, but on national TV... I don't think so. ALSO, I don't know if this is factual or not, but I've heard that people who suffer from Bell's Palsy have a tendency to drool. Jimmy kid, you just can't be slobbering on your notes with millions of people watching. It's just not good for the ratings!!!

BULLETIN!!!
BULLETIN!!!
BULLETIN!!!

PLEASE, PLEASE, if you're out there and you suffer from Bell's Palsy, don't be offended by my comments. I mean, at least you people can be trusted—in light of the fact that you only talk out of ONE side of your mouths!!!

All kidding aside (even though I'm not really), I stand up and applaud Jim Ross for speaking his mind. It took guts for him to do what he did and I commend him for that. He took a shot at the Emperor... AND HE LIVED TO TELL ABOUT IT!!!

MONDAY NIGHT
RAW

In a mystical land far away, the ancient S

"I CALL FOR A great TOURNAMENT TO BE HELD. Let us see

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION®

&

MB® MILTON BRADLEY

Karate Fighters

From October 21st through December 16th, an eight week Milton Bradley Karate Fighters Holiday Tournament will take place between select World Wrestling Federation Superstars. These Federation Superstars will compete using the awesome new line of Karate Fighters called **Electronic Karate Fighters.** Eight Federation Superstars will compete against each other and only the best Karate Fighter will survive the competition. Watch the World Wrestling Federation on USA Network, WGN Network, your local television station, or check out the World Wrestling Federation area on America Online for more details and updates.

unbelievable!

CyBERfIst

A demented electronics expert, Cyberfist sees life as one big video game. He is constantly shocking opponents with his disruptive powers.

unstoppable!

SamURAI NiNja

Precise and elegant in battle, the Samurai Ninja is the most sophisticated fighter of the group. He uses only the exact force needed to defend or attack.

quarTEr FInals

SUPERSTAR Ⓐ
SUPERSTAR Ⓑ
SUPERSTAR Ⓒ
SUPERSTAR Ⓓ
SUPERSTAR Ⓔ
SUPERSTAR Ⓕ
SUPERSTAR Ⓖ
SUPERSTAR Ⓗ

MB® Karate Fighters® presents WWF® IN your House™

MB® Karate Fighters® presents WWF World Wrestling Federation® SURVIVOR SERIES®

nsei calls his disciples before him. He says, who is the greatest KARATE FIGHTER of all the WF."

October 21 - December 16, 1996

Holiday Tournament

SATURDAY @ 9 AM	Blast Off on the WGN Network
SATURDAY @ 10 AM	Live Wire on the USA Network
SATURDAY/SUNDAY	Challenge (check your local listing)
SUNDAY @ 11 AM	Superstars on the USA Network
MONDAY @ 8:57 PM	Monday Night RAW on the USA Network

Below is a grid you can fill out to keep track of the winners in this exciting Karate Fighters Holiday Tournament.

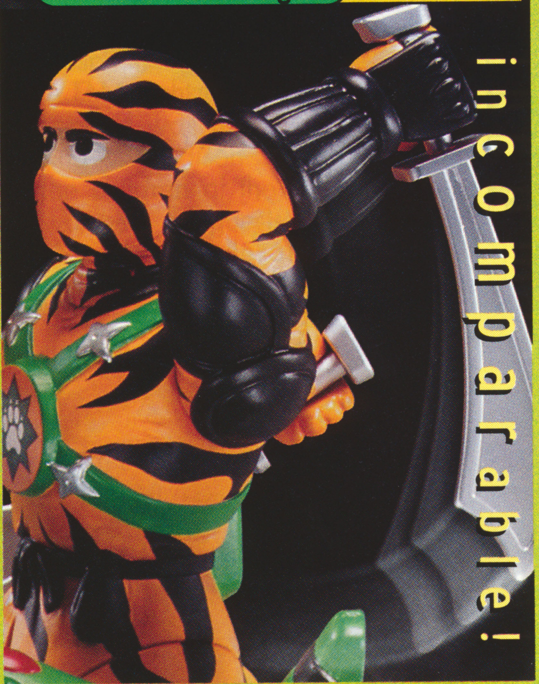
uncontrollable!

HEADstONe

Headstone really likes to throw his weight around. With his rock head and stone skin, this mutant enjoys smashing everything in his path to bits.

A no-nonsense martial arts instructor, Tiger Ninja is a fierce, cunning fighter who quickly gains the upper "claw" over his opponents.

TiGEr NiNja


incomparable!

SEmi-fINAlS

FInALs

MILTON BRADLEY KARATE FIGHTERS WORLD CHAMPION

FEDERATION TELEVISION CONTINUES TO BE THE REVOLUTIONARY FORCE!

With the start of the new television season every fall, couch potatoes worldwide look forward to seeing all new glimpses of shows such as *Friends, Frasier* and *Seinfeld* on a weekly basis after a hard day's work. With these new episodes, the theme each season is "change"—new and different characters along with twisting plots. Federation officials decided a little "change" was in store for its premier shows... along with a few new additions for the fans!

At 9 AM ET every Saturday morning on the WGN Superstation, Todd Pettengill is the host of *Blast-Off*, which is setting new standards in early-morning entertainment! Todd takes his viewers through a one-hour review and preview of the Federation that puts the likes of *Inside the NFL* to shame! As an added bonus—fans don't have to deal with Jerry Glanville, just good ol' Todd!

AND... just an hour later on the USA Network, get ready to "interact" in every sense of the word with *Live Wire*, hosted by Todd, with co-hosts Sunny and Jim Cornette. You never know WHAT is going to happen at 10 AM ET when the World Wrestling Federation goes totally LIVE! With faxes, phone calls and e-mail from the World Wrestling Federation site on America Online, *Live Wire* answers ALL the questions—BAR NONE!

Then, sometime during the weekend (check your local listings), "Handsome" Dok Hendrix takes to the airwaves and World Wrestling Federation *Challenge* gets in your face! *Challenge*, a longtime favorite of Federation fans, takes a look at the action you may have missed during the week and also gives the superstars a soapbox to voice their opinions on upcoming matches!

Having made its move to Sunday morning at 11 AM ET, the successful "original original" known as World Wrestling Federation *Superstars* is on the USA Network! Fans of the Federation are no strangers to *Superstars*, as the show that has revolutionized sports-entertainment for 10 years gets BIGGER and BADDER with each and every new season!

Weekend warriors will have no problem getting the lingering effects of Friday night out of their craniums when these shows hit the screen each and every weekend as part of the new Fall Season! With *Blast-Off, Live Wire, Challenge* and *Superstars*, the World Wrestling Federation is CONTINUING to be the revolutionary force in sports-entertainment!

TOP 5 TIPS

VADER'S OWN TOP FIVE STRESS-RELIEVING TIPS:

1 Go back to the Rocky Mountains. Throw some boulders on an unsuspecting village. Feel better.

2 Go for a bike ride. Clothesline roller bladers who get in your way. Feel better.

3 Go on *Live with Regis and Kathie Lee.* Vader Bomb Kathie Lee. Feel better.

3a Leave the studio, go to Connecticut and harass Frank, Cody and Cassidy. Feel even better.

4 Go to Republican headquarters. Eat all of Bob Dole's Geritol, then Moonsault him. Feel better.

5 Eats lots of chili and beans. Go into a crowded movie theater and enjoy yourself. Feel better.

IT'S GOING TO BE A "WILD" REIGN INDEED!

After a month-long tournament to determine a new Intercontinental Champion after Ahmed Johnson was stripped of the title back in July, Marc Mero ushered in the era of the "Wild Reign" when he pinned Faarooq in the final match of the tournament in Hershey, Pennsylvania, in front of millions on television—with a little help from Sunny's "brick purse" of course!

After Faarooq was knocked COLD, Mero executed the "Wild Thing", his breathtaking finishing maneuver, that sent fans cheering and cameras snapping! After going through Stone Cold Steve Austin, Owen Hart and Faarooq, it was time for Mero to bust open the Champagne!

With brutes like Sycho Sid, Faarooq and Stone Cold Steve Austin participating in the Intercontinental Title Tournament this past September, not many people would have imagined that the Wildman would get to the finals of the tournament., let alone beat Faarooq when he got there! But he did... and after he pinned the gladiator in the chocolate capital of the world, the NEW CHAMP thanked God and the love of Sable for allowing him to do it!

Congratulations Marc Mero! After what you accomplished in the Intercontinental Title Tournament, it's going to be a WILD ride indeed!

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION PAY•PER 1996 VIEW

November 17	***SURVIVOR SERIES*** **MSG, New York City**
December 15	***IN YOUR HOUSE*** **West Palm Beach, FL**
January 19	***ROYAL RUMBLE*** **San Antonio, TX**

SAPPHIRE IN MEMORIAM

The World Wrestling Federation recently mourned the untimely death of one of its most beloved managers of all time—Sapphire.

During her career in the World Wrestling Federation, Sapphire captured the hearts and cheers of fans across the globe as the manager of Dusty Rhodes in the late 1980s and early 1990s. No one will ever forget her warm smile and the joy she brought to each and every one of us.

Sapphire may no longer be with us, but the memories of her will never be forgotten.

JUANITA "SAPPHIRE" WRIGHT

how to order pay-per-view

Call your local cable company. Your cable operator will have specific information on how to order and the cost of each event. You can also check your last month's cable bill for a special ordering phone number for your system's pay-per-view events.

For satellite dish reception, via the larger
C-Band dishes, call:
Prime Time 24
1-800-989-7526

For direct satellite reception,
via the smaller KU-Band dishes, call:
Direct TV
1-800-347-3288

1) All events are on Sunday at 7pm ET. 2) Replays for all *In Your House* events at 9pm ET. 3) Replays for all five other events are at 10pm ET. 4) Encores for all five other events are the Tuesday following the event. The times of the encores are 8pm and 11pm ET.

Before ever stepping boot into the ranks of the World Wrestling Federation, the massive gladiator Faarooq was one of only two men to have had his football jersey retired at Florida State University.

YOU DON'T SAY

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT and CIRCULATION

(Required by 39 U.S.C. 3685)

1. Title of publication: World Wrestling Federation Magazine
2. Publication No: 87567792
3. Date of filing: October 1, 1996
4. Frequency of issue: Monthly
5. No. of issues published annually: 12
6. Annual subscription price: $24.00
7. Complete mailing address of known office of publication: 1241 East Main Street, Stamford, CT 06902
8. Complete mailing address of the headquarters or general business offices of the publisher: 1241 East Main Street, Stamford, CT 06902
9. Full names and complete mailing address of Vice President/Publisher and Editor: To be determined 1241 East Main Street, Stamford, CT 06902. Editor: Vincent Russo, 1241 East Main Street, Stamford, CT 06902
10. Owner: TitanSports, Inc., 1241 East Main Street, Stamford, CT 06902; Vincent K. McMahon, 1241 East Main Street, Stamford, CT 06902; Linda E. McMahon, 1241 East Main Street, Stamford, CT 06902
11. Known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages or other securities: None
12. Extent and nature of circulation, average number of copies each issue during preceding 12 months (the actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date is given in parentheses):

a. Total number of copies printed: **459,807 (439,462)**
b. Paid circulation:
  1. Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter sales: **121,536 (116,858)**
  2. Mail subscription: **103,388 (103,389)**
c. Total paid circulation: **224,924 (220,247)**
d. Free distribution by mail (samples, complimentary & other free): **5,015 (5,275)**
e. Free distribution outside the mail (carriers or other means): **773 (1,077)**
f. Total free distribution: **5,788 (6,352)**
g. Total distribution: **230,712 (226,599)**
h. Copies not distributed:
  1. Office use, leftover, unaccounted for, spoiled after printing: **9,840 (20,347)**
  2. Returns from news agents: **219,255 (192,516)**
i. Total: **459,807 (439,462)**
j. Percent paid and/or requested circulation: **97.5% (97.2%)**

I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.

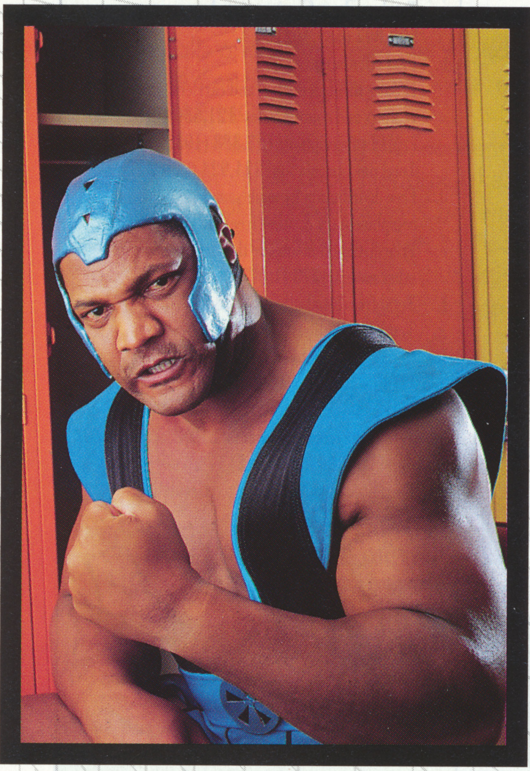
Vince Russo

Vince Russo,
Editor-in-Chief

IN THE LINE OF FIRE

TA

In many instances it can take a competitor years before he is able to climb his way up the World Wrestling Federation ladder and be considered a "top" contender by both Federation fans and officials. On the other hand, there are those who don't believe in "paying their dues". They choose rather to take the "short cut". Doing something so drastic, so severe that the Federation faithful and brass have no choice but to sit up and take notice...IMMEDIATELY!!!



Such was the game plan of one—Faarooq. The man formerly known as Ron Simmons certainly did pay his dues in other wrestling organizations. However, the day he set boot into the World Wrestling Federation he wasted no time in letting it be known that Faarooq time was NOW!!! Faarooq welcomed himself to the rings of the World Wrestling Federation by jumping superstar Ahmed Johnson (from behind, I might add)—not only putting him out of action for months... but almost ending his livelihood in the process!

Now Faarooq is a gladiator on a mission. His philosophy is simple—either gold find its way around his waist quickly... OR, there are going to be MANY MORE casualties along the way.

Recently, I had the opportunity to interview Faarooq and his "inspiration" Sunny and this is what the dastardly duo had to say:

EDITOR: First question—Why the name change? Former All-American at Florida State University, illustrious wrestling career in other Federations—weren't you proud of who Ron Simmons was and what he represented?

FAAROOQ: I already answered that. That was a "former" life? Ron Simmons is dead. What else do you want to know?

EDITOR: After a three-year absence from the ring, what made you decide to come back?

FAAROOQ: The urge that I have in my

ARGET:

FAAROOQ

IN THE LINE OF FIRE

IN THE LINE OF FIRE

IN THE LINE OF FIRE

IN THE LINE OF FIRE

IN THE LINE OF FIRE

IN THE LINE OF FIRE

IN THE LINE OF FIRE

IN THE LINE OF FIRE

IN THE LINE OF FIRE

IN THE LINE OF FIRE

IN THE LINE OF FIRE

veins now and the urge that I had in my veins all throughout that "former life"—and that is simply the urge to beat people up!

EDITOR: And beat people up you did. What made you decide to immediately pinpoint Ahmed Johnson as your first victim?

FAAROOQ: Why not go to the biggest—SUPPOSEDLY BADDEST—that they've got? Now that he's gone, it's a piece of cake. If that's the baddest and the biggest they've got, then brother... it's all over.

EDITOR: Why would a man of your size and stature choose to attack Ahmed Johnson from behind?

FAAROOQ: I didn't attack Ahmed Johnson. He issued a challenge is what it was—and I took him up on it, that's all.

EDITOR: How did it make you feel that you might have ended a man's career... a man's livelihood? At the time, did you have any remorse whatsoever?

FAAROOQ: Oh, geez, I had a lot of remorse... that I didn't kick both his kidneys in!

EDITOR: Let's change gears here for a second. Let's talk about the Intercontinental Champion...

FAAROOQ: Fine. That would be me then.

EDITOR: You?

FAAROOQ: That's right. I was the man responsible for putting the Champion out, therefore I am the new Intercontinental Champion.

EDITOR: I beg to differ with you, but wasn't it the Wildman Marc Mero who beat you for that honor?

FAAROOQ: Beat me? The only thing that he did was beat me with his loaded purse! The whole world knows that Faarooq is the "real" Intercontinental Champion, and that's just something that they're going to have to live with!

EDITOR: Well now that you are the "Champion"—in your own mind, of course—what exactly is the rest of your agenda here in the World Wrestling Federation? Do you have any goals, or are you just looking to hurt people? What does Faarooq want?

FAAROOQ: What do you mean, "what do I want"? Is it really that hard to figure that out?! I WANT IT ALL! NOTHING MORE... NOTHING LESS! And I'm going to do whatever I have to do to get it!

EDITOR: Is that why you "amicably" decided to part ways with Sunny? Was she a distraction to you? Could you tell us what was behind that decision?

FAAROOQ: Why does something always have to be "behind" something? The decision was made between Sunny and me, and "what was behind it" will remain with us. In other words, IT'S NONE OF YOUR DAMN BUSINESS!

EDITOR: Sunny claims that both of you will remain "good friends". What does that mean?

FAAROOQ: What word didn't you understand?

EDITOR: I guess the phrase "good friends". Is there more going on between you and Sunny than you want to tell?

FAAROOQ: If I wanted to tell it, I would, now wouldn't I? Once again, it's none of your DAMN business!

EDITOR: Have you any last words for the fans of the World Wrestling Federation?

FAAROOQ: Yes. I love them all to death, and I know they love me. WF

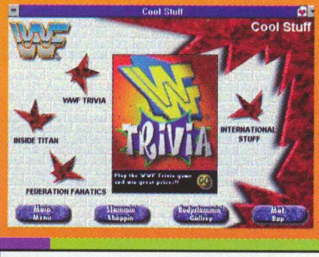
If you haven't already been bodyslammed in cyberspace...Then lace up them boots!!!

The WWF® on AMERICA Online®

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION

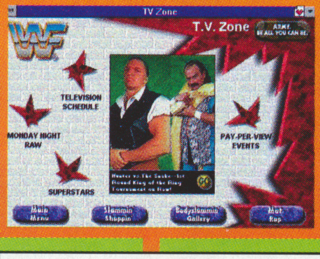
THE HOTTEST PLACE IN CYBERSPACE!

other cool stuff


Cool Stuff
Cool Stuff
WWF TRIVIA
INSIDE TITAN
INTERNATIONAL STUFF
FEDERATION FANATICS
TRIVIA
Main Menu
Slammin' Shoppin
Bodyslammin' Gallery
Mat Rap

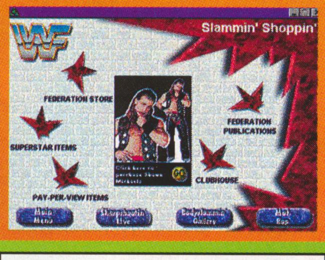
Check out the toughest trivia questions the World Wrestling Federation has to offer and much more!

tv zone


TV Zone
T.V. Zone
TELEVISION SCHEDULE
MONDAY NIGHT RAW
PAY-PER-VIEW EVENTS
SUPERSTARS
Main Menu
Slammin' Shoppin
Bodyslammin' Gallery
Mat Rap

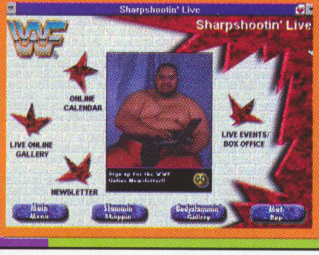
In-depth previews and reviews of all the latest World Wrestling Federation television shows!

slammin' shoppin'


Slammin' Shoppin'
FEDERATION STORE
FEDERATION PUBLICATIONS
SUPERSTAR ITEMS
CLUBHOUSE
PAY-PER-VIEW ITEMS
Main Menu
Sharpshootin' Live
Bodyslammin' Gallery
Mat Rap

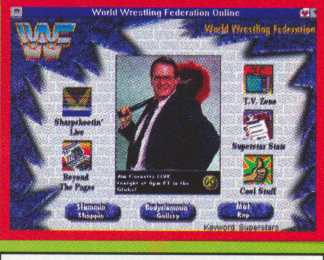
Purchase exclusive World Wrestling Federation merchandise with the touch of a button.

it's alive'


Sharpshootin' Live
Sharpshootin' Live
ONLINE CALENDAR
LIVE ONLINE GALLERY
LIVE EVENTS/ BOX OFFICE
NEWSLETTER
Main Menu
Slammin' Shoppin
Bodyslammin' Gallery
Mat Rap

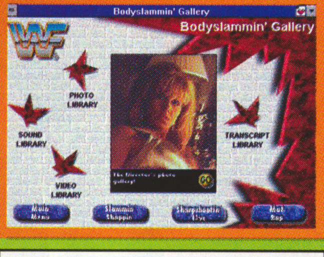
Weekly auditorium rap sessions with the superstars of the World Wrestling Federation.

main screen


World Wrestling Federation Online
World Wrestling Federation
Sharpshootin' Live
Beyond The Pages
T.V. Zone
Superstar Stats
Cool Stuff
Slammin' Shoppin
Bodyslammin' Gallery
Mat Rap
Keyword: Superstars

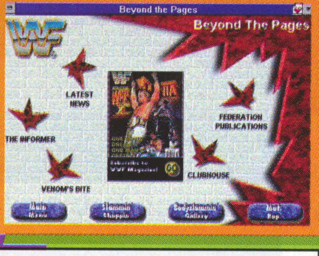
From the main screen you can access any of these great features that the Federation site has to offer!

bodyslammin' gallery


Bodyslammin' Gallery
Bodyslammin' Gallery
PHOTO LIBRARY
SOUND LIBRARY
TRANSCRIPT LIBRARY
VIDEO LIBRARY
Main Menu
Slammin' Shoppin
Sharpshootin' Live
Mat Rap

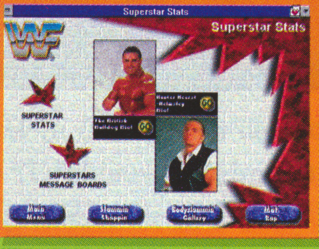
Download photos, listen to audio clips, watch full-motion video clips and much, much more!

beyond the pages


Beyond the Pages
Beyond The Pages
LATEST NEWS
THE INFORMER
FEDERATION PUBLICATIONS
VENOM'S BITE
CLUBHOUSE
Main Menu
Slammin' Shoppin
Bodyslammin' Gallery
Mat Rap

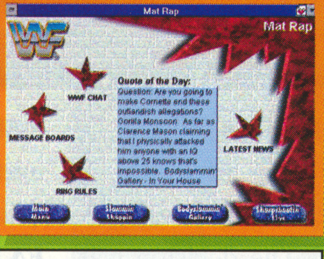
An inside look at the latest issue of World Wrestling Federation Magazine and RAW Magazine—before they come out!

superstar stats


Superstar Stats
Superstar Stats
SUPERSTAR STATS
SUPERSTARS MESSAGE BOARDS
Main Menu
Slammin' Shoppin
Bodyslammin' Gallery
Mat Rap

Complete bios, pictures and statistics of all the great World Wrestling Federation superstars.

mat rap


Mat Rap
Mat Rap
WWF CHAT
MESSAGE BOARDS
RING RULES
LATEST NEWS
Main Menu
Slammin' Shoppin
Bodyslammin' Gallery
Sharpshootin' Live

Quote of the Day:
Question: Are you going to make Cornette end these outlandish allegations? Gorilla Monsoon: As far as Clarence Mason claiming that I physically attacked him anyone with an IQ above 25 knows that's impossible. Bodyslammin' Gallery - In Your House

An open chat forum for the fans to discuss current World Wrestling Federation happenings!

YOU HAD BETTER BE PREPARED!

IF YOU HAVE A COMPUTER WITH A MODEM, RECEIVE

50 FREE HOURS!

CALL 1-800-445-9933

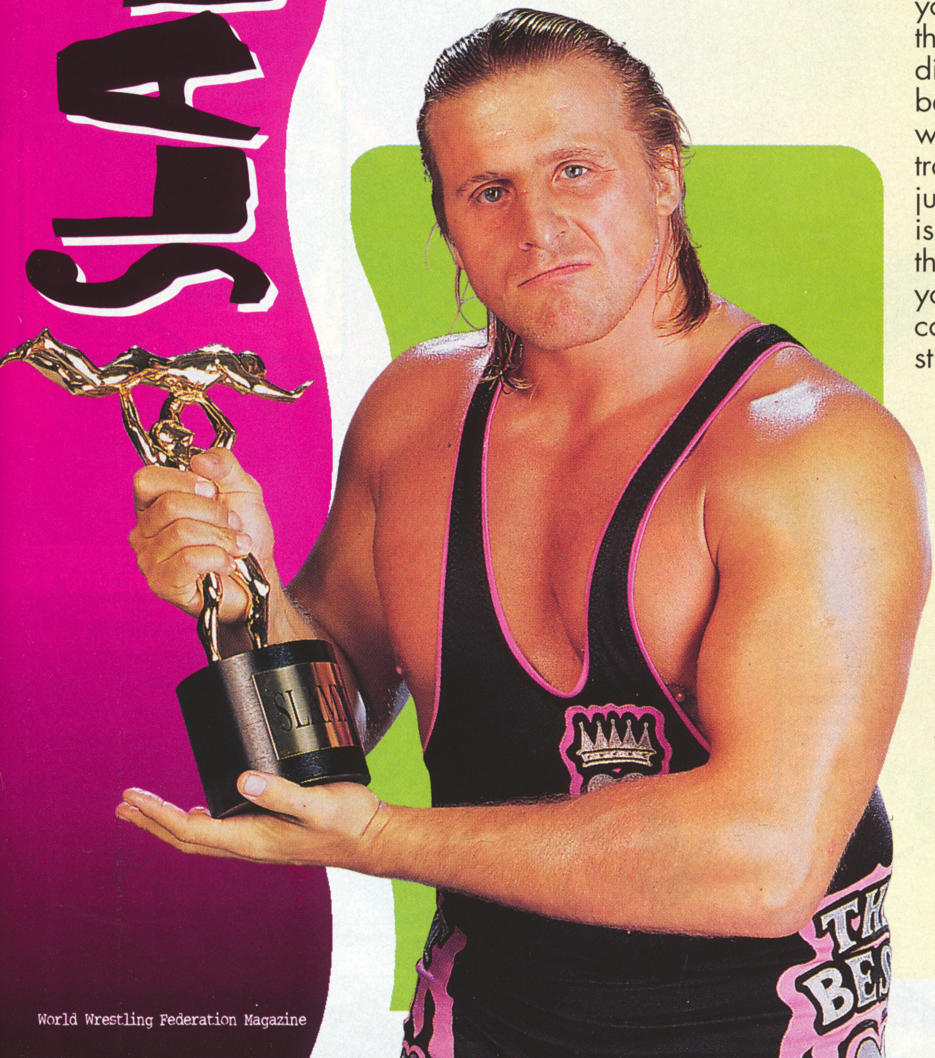
THE WORDS OF OWEN HART

SLAMMY THIS!!!

Now, there should be no question that the "King of Harts" Owen Hart is the greatest tag team wrestler of all time! At September's *In Your House* I proved without a shadow of a doubt that I'm the best there is, the best there was and the best there ever will be as both a singles AND a tag team competitor!

Let's face it, it wasn't that long ago that I was carrying that "beached whale" Yokozuna around. When he and I were the tag team champions he brought absolutely NOTHING to the table... except of course a picnic basket overflowing with assorted pies, cookies and cakes! Owen Hart was certainly the cog in that wheel!

I mean look what happened to Yoko after I dumped him—he's now sharing an apartment with the Tidy Bowl Man!!!



British Bulldog? Now that's a totally different story. He and I are "truly" a team. It's a give-and-take situation. There is no jealousy factor between us whatsoever! We both realize our greatness and we accept it! It's mutual. A partnership. Nothing like the relationship he had with the Dynamite Kid back in the mid-80s and early 90s. Davey Boy made that team. It was evident then and it's even more evident now! When is the last time anyone's even heard of the Dynamite Kid? Case closed.

Another controversy that I'd like to put to bed right now is the Jim Cornette/Clarence Mason fiasco. Many people feel that Clarence tricked Cornette into signing our contract over to him. People, let me ask you something—does it really matter who manages this great team? Do you think that either Jim Cornette or Clarence Mason had, or have, anything to do with our success? If you do, then you're even stupider than I thought! That's like saying: if Phil Jackson didn't coach the Chicago Bulls it wouldn't be as great a team as it is. C'mon, get with the program! Phil is riding on the train of Dennis Rodman's wedding dress just like everybody else! The bottom line is, even if the pathetic RICH KOTITE—that's the coach of the New York Jets for you idiots out there who didn't know—coached us, me and the Bulldog would still be great!!!

By the way, Sunny... quit calling me!

And last, but not least, my kudos go out to Jim Ross. It takes a real man to say the things that he said about Vince McMahon on *Monday Night RAW*. It was nice to finally see somebody take a stand against "The Boss". Don't misunderstand me, I've ripped Vince privately on many occasions, but to do it in front of a national audience is something that even the "King of Harts" has to look up to!

SLAMMY THIS! LATER!

BABEWATCH
A
BABEWATCH
Sunny
"Let Me Dry You Off"
Sunny
WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION
B

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION®

PRO SHOP™

The Sunny™ Collection

By the most popular demand ever in the World Wrestling Federation, we bring you the Sunny Collection.

A. **Babewatch Tee**
Red. 100% cotton.
M L XL XXL
06005 $21.90

B. **Big Bath Towel**
30 X 60 *06006* $24.90.

C. **Property of Sunny Tee**
Ash Grey.
100% cotton.
M L XL XXL
06003 $21.90

D. **Stay Cool Tee**
White. 100% cotton.
06010 $21.90

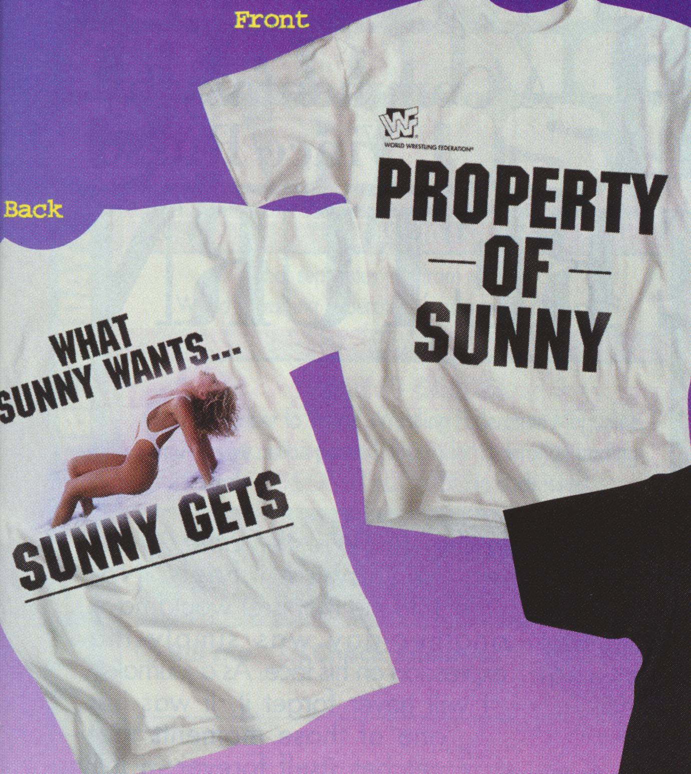
E. **Raw Tee**
Black. 100% cotton.
S M L XL XXL
06001 $21.90

F. **Smokin' Tee**
Black. 100% Cotton.
M L XL XXL
06004 $21.90

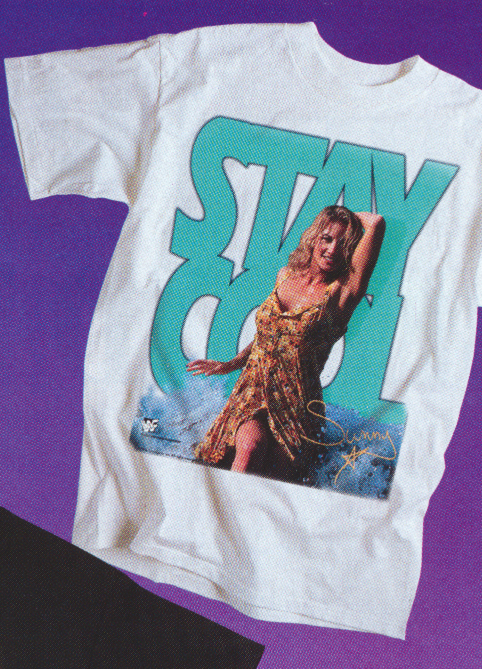
G. **Absolutely Sunny Tee**
Black. 100% cotton.
06009 $21.90

©1996 TitanSports, Inc. All rights reserved.

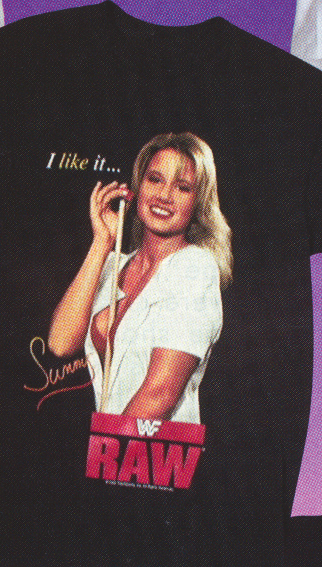
WANT A FREE CATALOG????
THERE ARE A MILLION WAYS
TO GET ONE...
WELL...ACTUALLY ONLY 3:
AOL:
KEYWORD:
SUPERSTARS@AOL.COM
THE WEB:
HTTP://WWW.
WWFPROSHOP.COM
OR WRITE FOR ONE:
WWF PROSHOP
P.O. BOX 744
MT. MORRIS, IL61054


Front
Back
WHAT SUNNY WANTS...
SUNNY GETS
WWF WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION
PROPERTY
—OF—
SUNNY

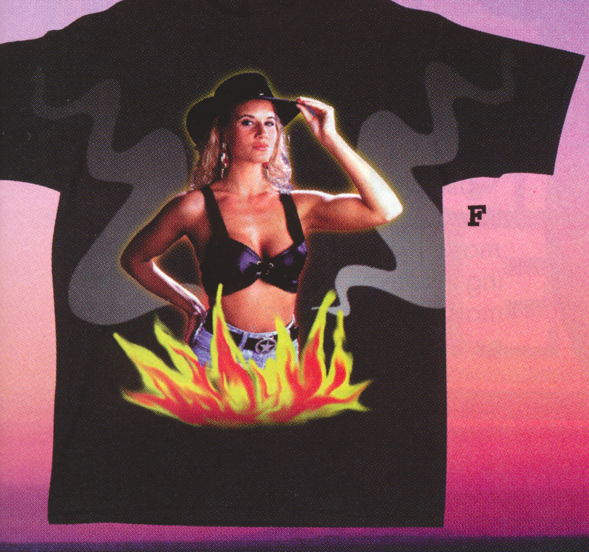
C


STAY COOL
Sunny

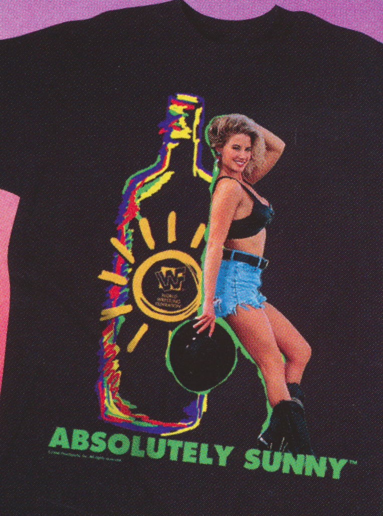
D


I like it...
Sunny
WWF
RAW

E



F


WWF WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION
ABSOLUTELY SUNNY™

G

CALL TO ORDER 1•815•734•1156 (7:30–10:30 CST)

Send to: WWF Pro Shop, P. O. Box 744, Mt. Morris, IL 61054

Name

Address

City

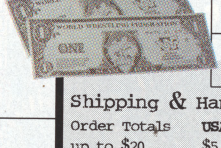
State, Zip

METHOD OF PAYMENT ☐ Check/Money Order ☐ MC ☐ VISA

Account Number/Expiration Date

Cardholder's Signature

Don't forget–for every $35 you spend, you get $2 in Slambucks!! Use these "Bucks" for discounts on more great stuff from the World Wrestling Federation ProShop!!!



Item#	Size	Qty.	Total

Shipping & Handling

Order Totals	USA	Canada
up to $20	$5	$8
$21–$50	$7	$9
$51–$75	$9	$11
$76–$100	$11	$13

Shipping & Handling (see chart at left)

New York residents add 8.25% sales tax

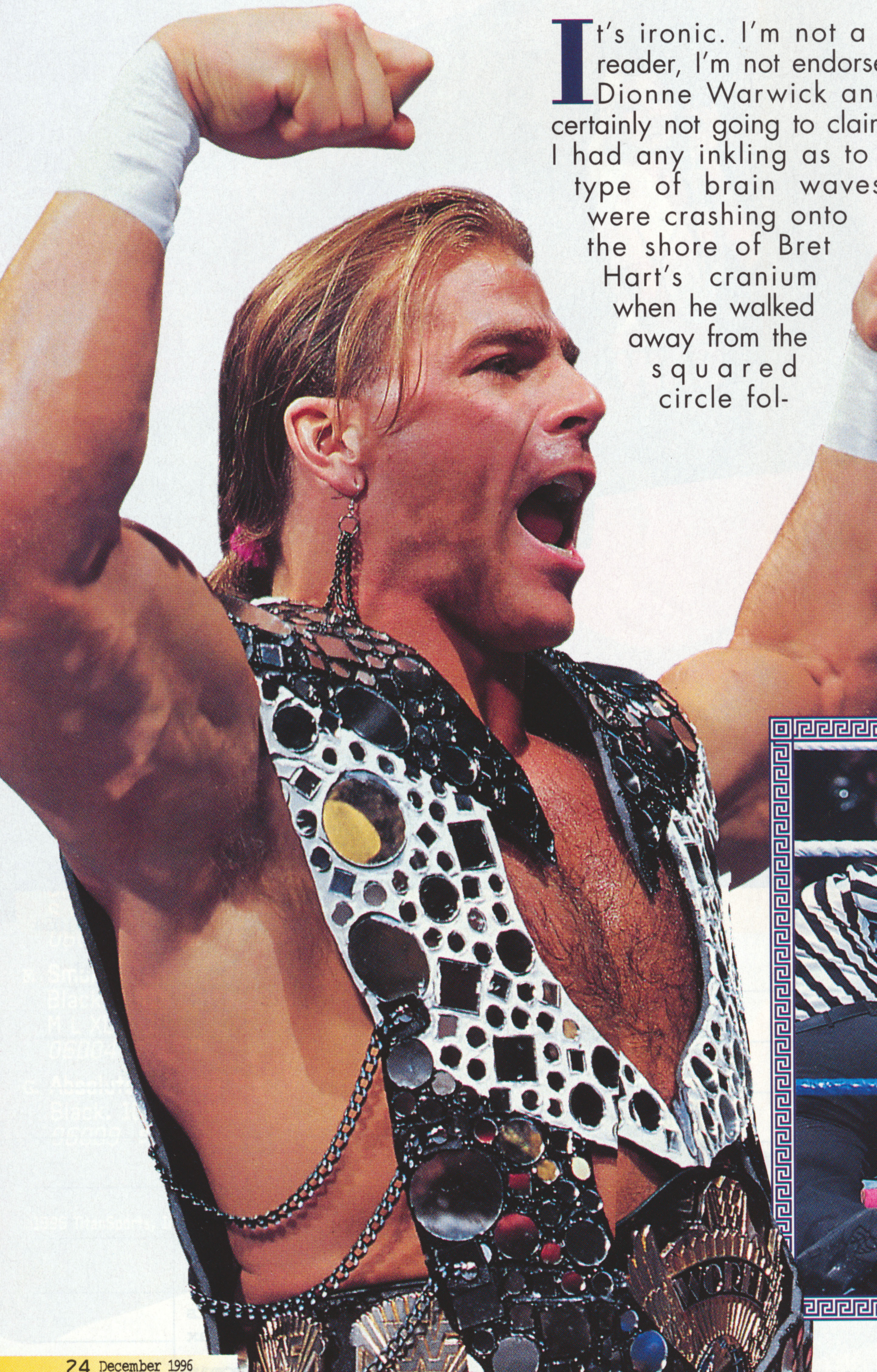
TOTAL

DO NOT SEND CASH. Please allow 4-6 weeks delivery. Canadian orders must be Visa/MasteCard in U.S. Dollars or check and money order with U.S. branch office printed on the checks only. All orders must include an additional 7% GST tax.

THE TRUTH BEHIND THE RETURN

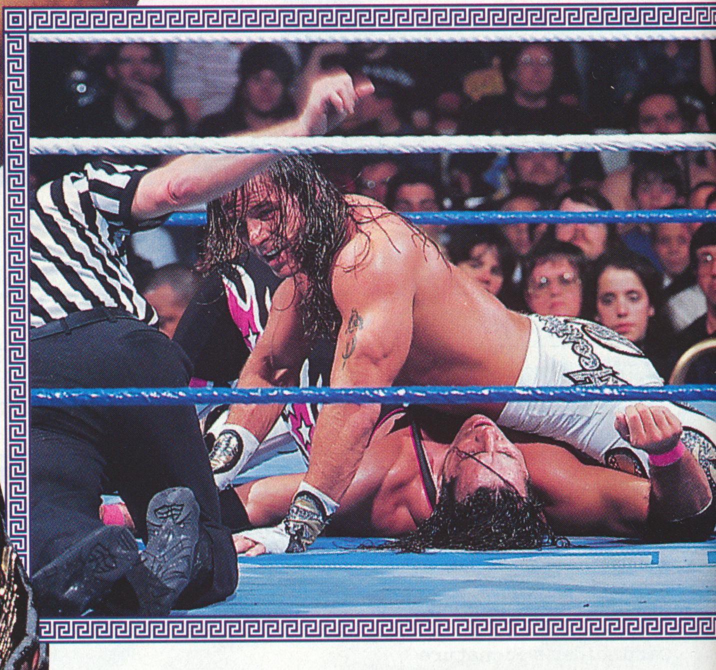
A Commentary by Vince Russo

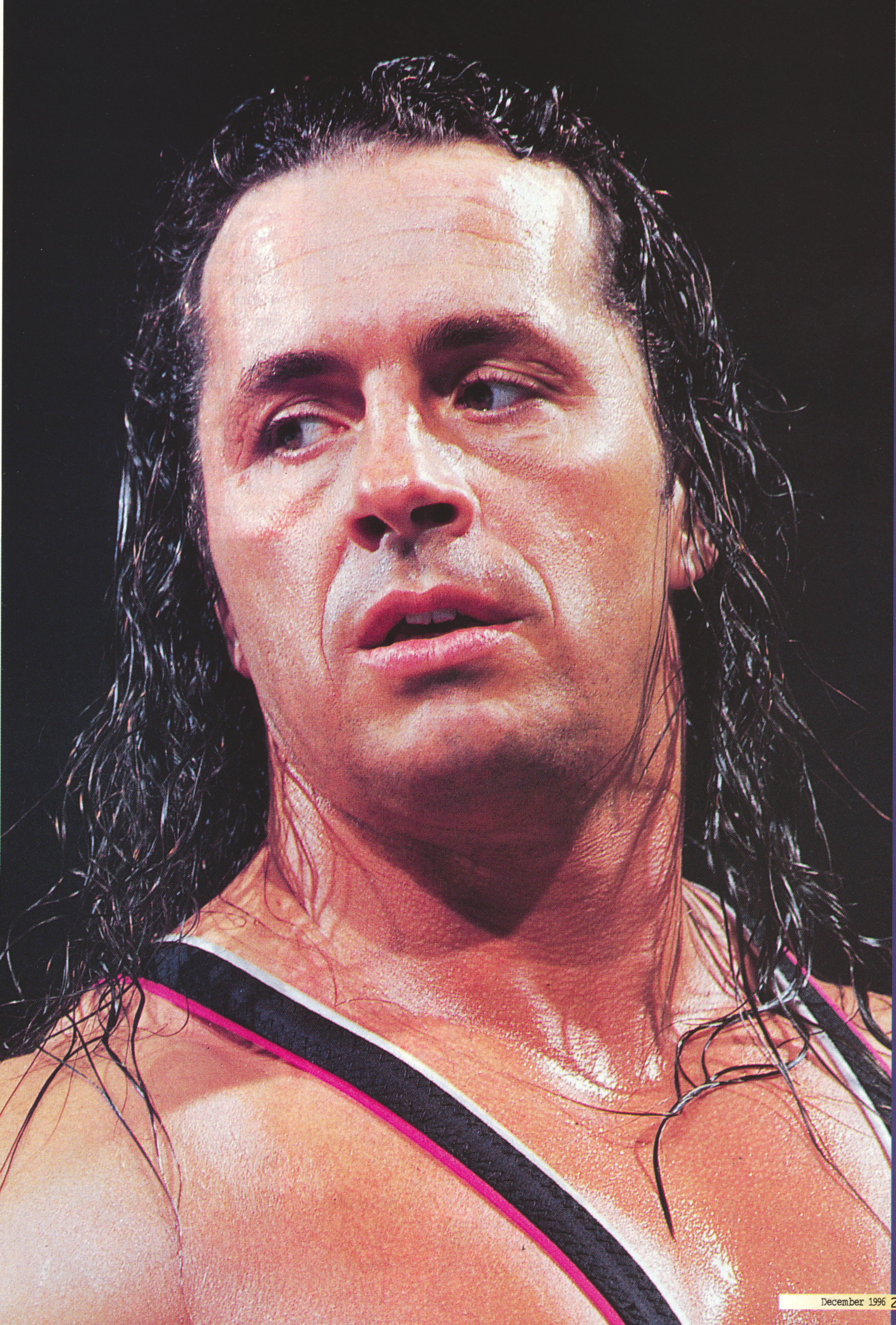
There was never any doubt in my mind that Bret Hart was going to return to the World Wrestling Federation.



It's ironic. I'm not a mind reader, I'm not endorsed by Dionne Warwick and I'm certainly not going to claim that I had any inkling as to what type of brain waves were crashing onto the shore of Bret Hart's cranium when he walked away from the squared circle following his *WrestleMania XII* defeat to Shawn Michaels. No, what told me that Bret would have another day was simply the expression on his face. As a journalist, I will never forget it. It was just one of those moments that etches itself forever in the corners of your mind.

I was standing at the end of the runway, when Dave Hebner raised Shawn Michaels' hand high and proclaimed him the new World Wrestling Federation Champion. Like a man taking his last walk on death row, Bret headed toward me... obviously trying to mask his emotions by never taking his eyes off his boots. As he marched hypnotically toward the exit, he took his sight from the



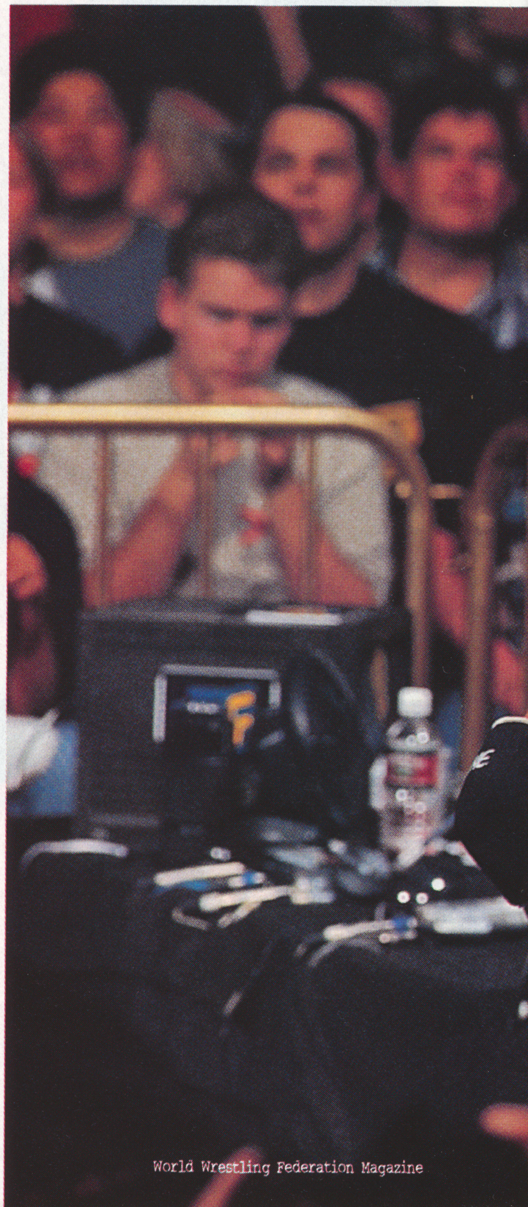


carpet for a split second and his eyes caught mine. His expression at that moment speared me, it harpooned me... and then it mesmerized me. I could read his face... like a novel concerning a man who had been stripped of his pride. He stood naked... and alone. He had let himself down. He couldn't fathom... couldn't comprehend the moment. He clearly couldn't, wouldn't and—as others would later say—shouldn't take this defeat.

I knew at that very moment that this wasn't the way heroes—TRUE heroes—go out. Not Bret Hart, anyway.

For the next six months, Bret contemplated his retirement... or, so he said. Yes, he was enjoying his family whom he rarely got to see and yes, Hollywood was knocking on his door, but throughout it all Bret Hart knew that he had some unfinished business at hand. There was somebody else out there walking around with what he felt rightfully belonged to him. Shawn was now the Federation Champion and Bret was suffering from many a sleepless night.

I talked to Bret in the weeks following *Wrestlemania XII* and he made it no secret that there was little love lost between him and the Heartbreak Kid. The fact is that Bret couldn't live with the fact that Shawn had beaten him. I've never said this publicly anywhere else before—maybe because I was BOUND and GAGGED by Federation officials—but the truth is that Bret Hart simply does not like Shawn Michaels... everything he is, everything that he represents and everything that he stands for. The Federation officials who tried to censor me told me that I needed to "protect Bret from himself". Protect him from himself?! What is that supposed to mean? Why should I protect a man from his own true feelings?



WHY? Do I, or anyone else for that matter, look down on Bret Hart because of the way he feels about Shawn Michaels? Absolutely not! I'm not saying that I agree or disagree with Bret's feelings regarding Shawn, but the bottom line is—THIS IS WHAT THE MAN FEELS, FOR CRYIN' OUT LOUD!!!

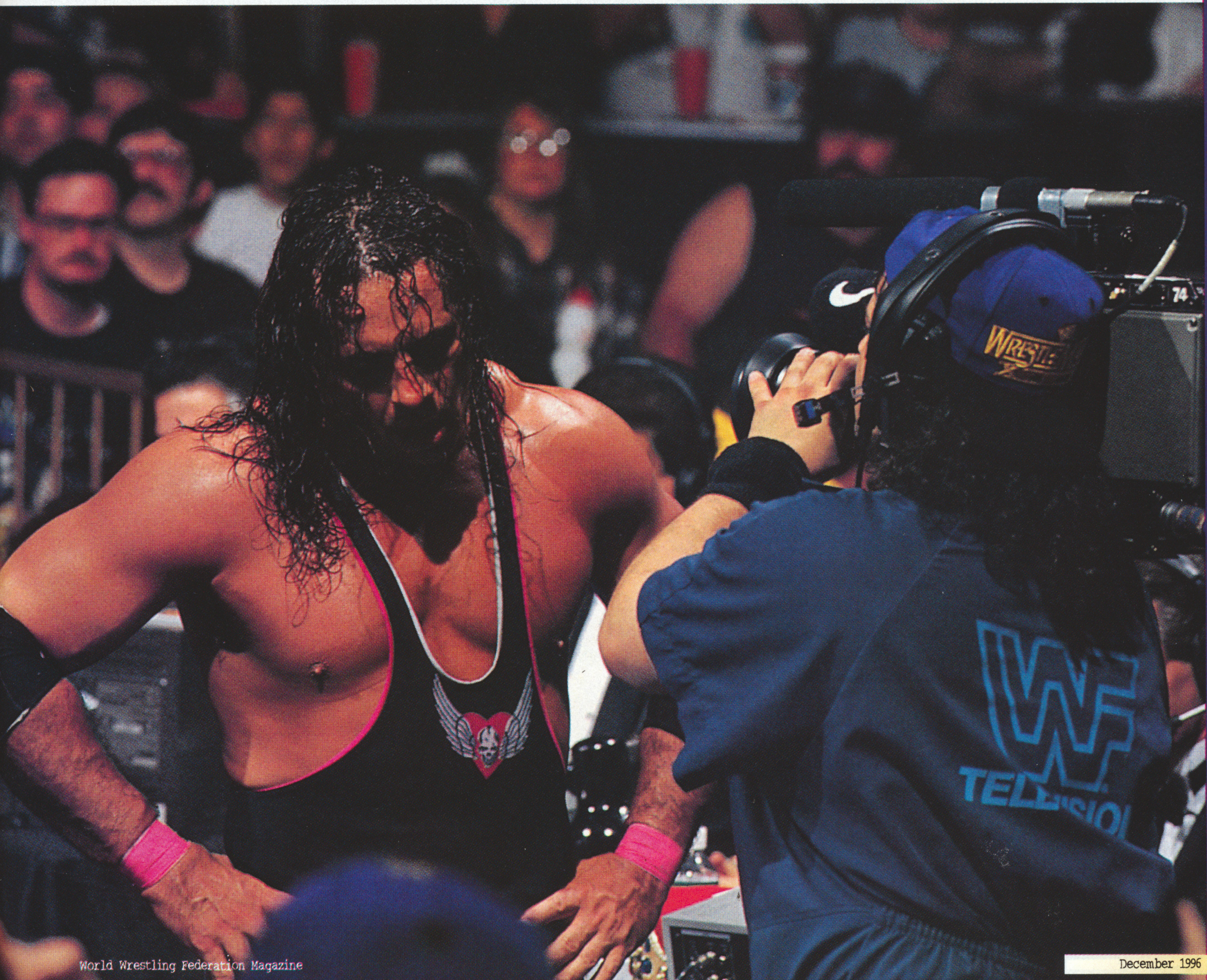
Just because two "good guys" share a locker room doesn't mean that they are absolutely going to love each other... so GET OVER IT! Bret has a true-to-life personal problem with Shawn Michaels—LET THE TRUTH BE TOLD!!! Both men represent two totally different schools, attitudes and principles. THEREFORE, they don't share that same common bond that say Jerry and Elaine do!!!

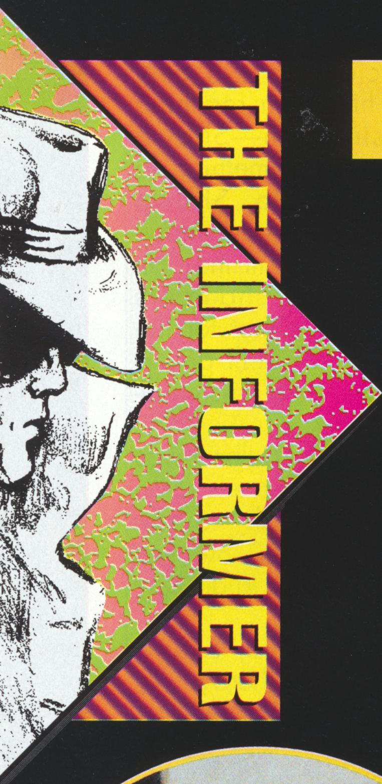
> **Bret Hart knew that he had some unfinished business at hand.**

Why am I putting myself on the line like this? Simple—it's personal and that's why Bret Hart is coming back to the World Wrestling Federation. In his mind, Stone Cold Steve Austin is just another brick in the wall... an annoying, cocky obstacle who will only briefly delay him from reaching his final destination—Shawn Michaels. Bret has something to prove, not only to Shawn Michaels but perhaps more important... to HIMSELF! Until the "Hit Man" has Shawn's shoulders buried deep into the mat for the three-count... he just ain't gonna be satisfied, folks. It's a harsh reality, but it's the truth.

Even though Rocky Balboa was a fictional character, there is some truth—a whole lotta truth—to having the "eye of the tiger". Bret has it and he's had it every single day since March 31, 1996.

And unfortunately for Shawn Michaels, Bret knows there's only one way to satisfy the hunger.





S P E C I A L

SPEWING VENOM... ON VENOM!

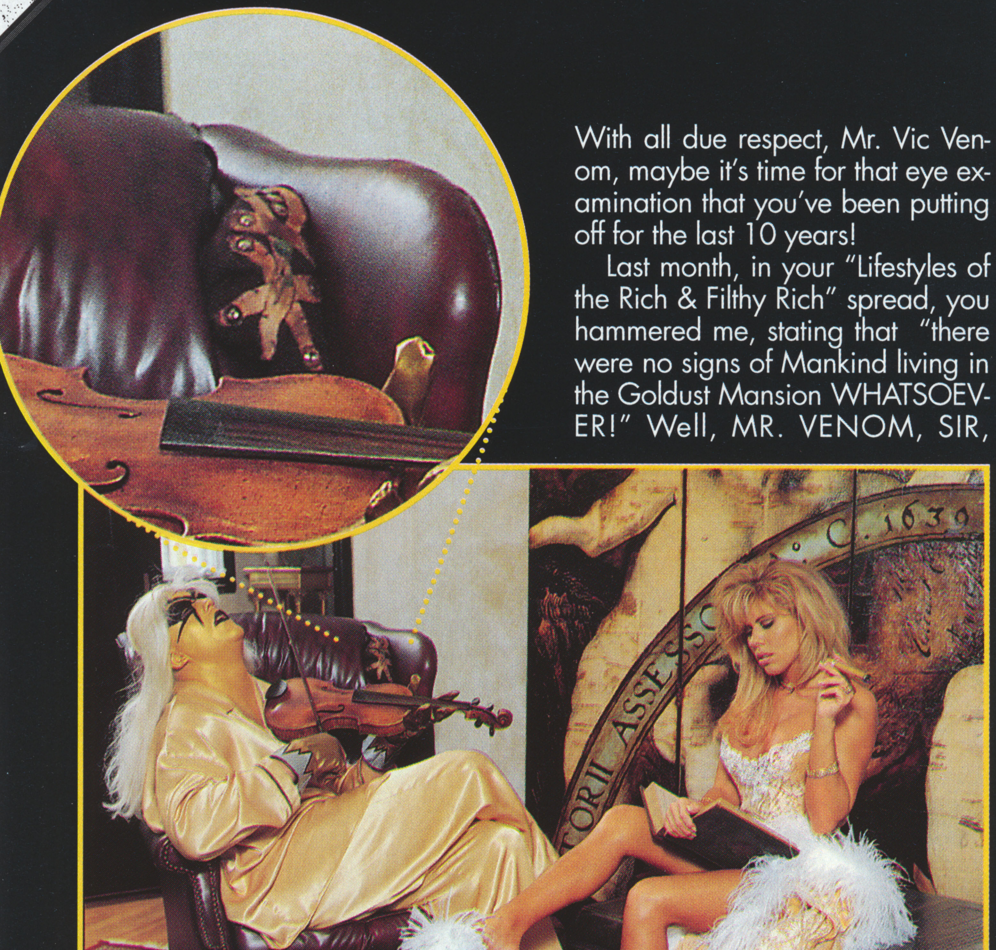


EXHIBIT #1

With all due respect, Mr. Vic Venom, maybe it's time for that eye examination that you've been putting off for the last 10 years!

Last month, in your "Lifestyles of the Rich & Filthy Rich" spread, you hammered me, stating that "there were no signs of Mankind living in the Goldust Mansion WHATSOEVER!" Well, MR. VENOM, SIR, I hate to "burst your bubble", but maybe—JUST MAYBE—you need to revisit those photos you took and have a closer look!

In the first picture, which I will call exhibit #1, you can clearly see that while Goldust plays his Stratavary, not "Stratosphere"—as you so incorrectly called it—Mankind's sign, or emblem, is clearly visible on the top right portion of the armchair? Coincidence? Maybe, but... DOUBTFUL! Read on.

Exhibit #2. Notice the bust of Beethoven to Goldust's right, which is clearly wearing Mankind's mask, or muzzle. AND on top of that, see the rat on the fireplace mantel. It just doesn't seem to go with the rest of the decor of the house... DOES IT? Onward.

Exhibit #3. The bedroom. They don't look like Goldust's boots next to the bed... DO THEY?

So, Mr. Venom, next time, before you choose to spew your ugliness at me, please—PLEASE—take a closer look, because you might just be making A FOOL of yourself!

Until next time...
this has been the Informer.

REPORT

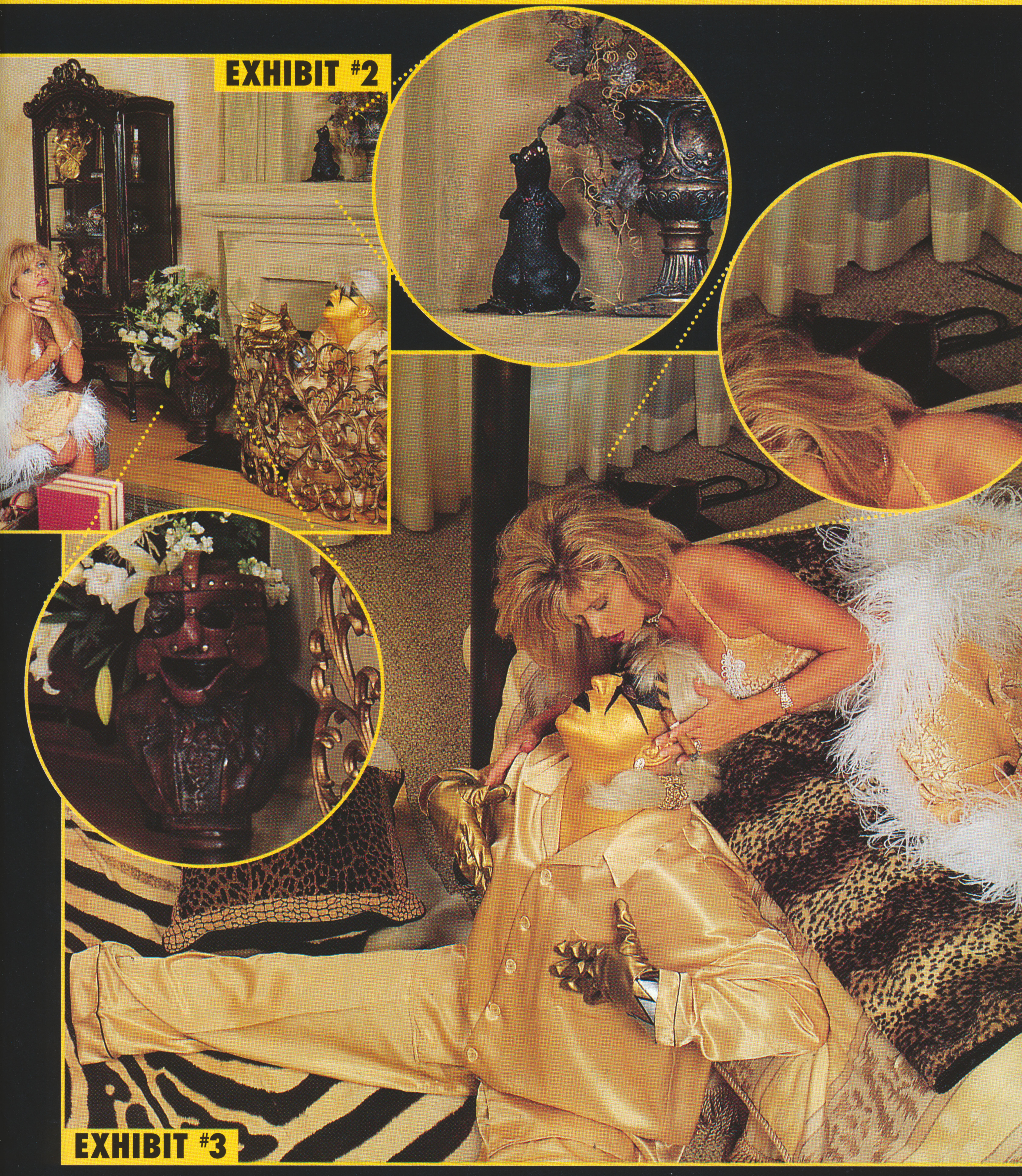


EXHIBIT #2

EXHIBIT #3

THE LEADER OF THE NEW ~~GENERATION~~ REVOLUTION!

BY BILL BANKS

In today's age of sports free agency, a man like Brian Pillman knows full well when to take advantage of opportunity when it comes knocking on the door. Years ago when he was first starting out in the ring, Brian was someone who played to the applause of the fans. With his Bengal skin trunks (he once played for the Cincinnati Bengals) and his puffy curled hair, Pillman was happy as heck to be in the ring! He simply did it for the love of the sport. Today, those memories make him want to throw-up his insides.

"My relationship with the World Wrestling Federation is based on GREED and GREED alone," Pillman said at his contract signing last May. "The Federation wanted Brian Pillman for ratings, and that's what I will give them! I'm here to hurt people and make money, and that's exactly what I'm going to do!"

Yes, it's true... Brian Pillman was one of the most highly touted free agents the business of sports-entertainment had ever seen. To be quite candid, he made Deion Sanders look like a Pop Warner football player... that was the type of impact Pillman had on the World Wrestling Federation. When Federation officials saw the chance to sign this man to a contract, they knew what they were getting into, and so did Pillman. You see, Pillman knew his abilities, both physical and verbal were going to make money for certain individuals—and he wasn't stupid to the fact. So, if anyone out there has any ideas that the "Time Bomb" simply LOVES traveling the country for the pure enjoyment of the sport, you've got another thing coming. Money is what makes the world go around, folks, and Pillman will be the first to remind you of that. Such was the case in a recent America Online interview, where Pillman made his feelings known.

"I'd like to say it's nice to be here, but it's not," Pillman said after being introduced to the online fans. "This is just another example of the World Wrestling Federation exploiting my popularity... and due to contractual obligations, I have to be here."

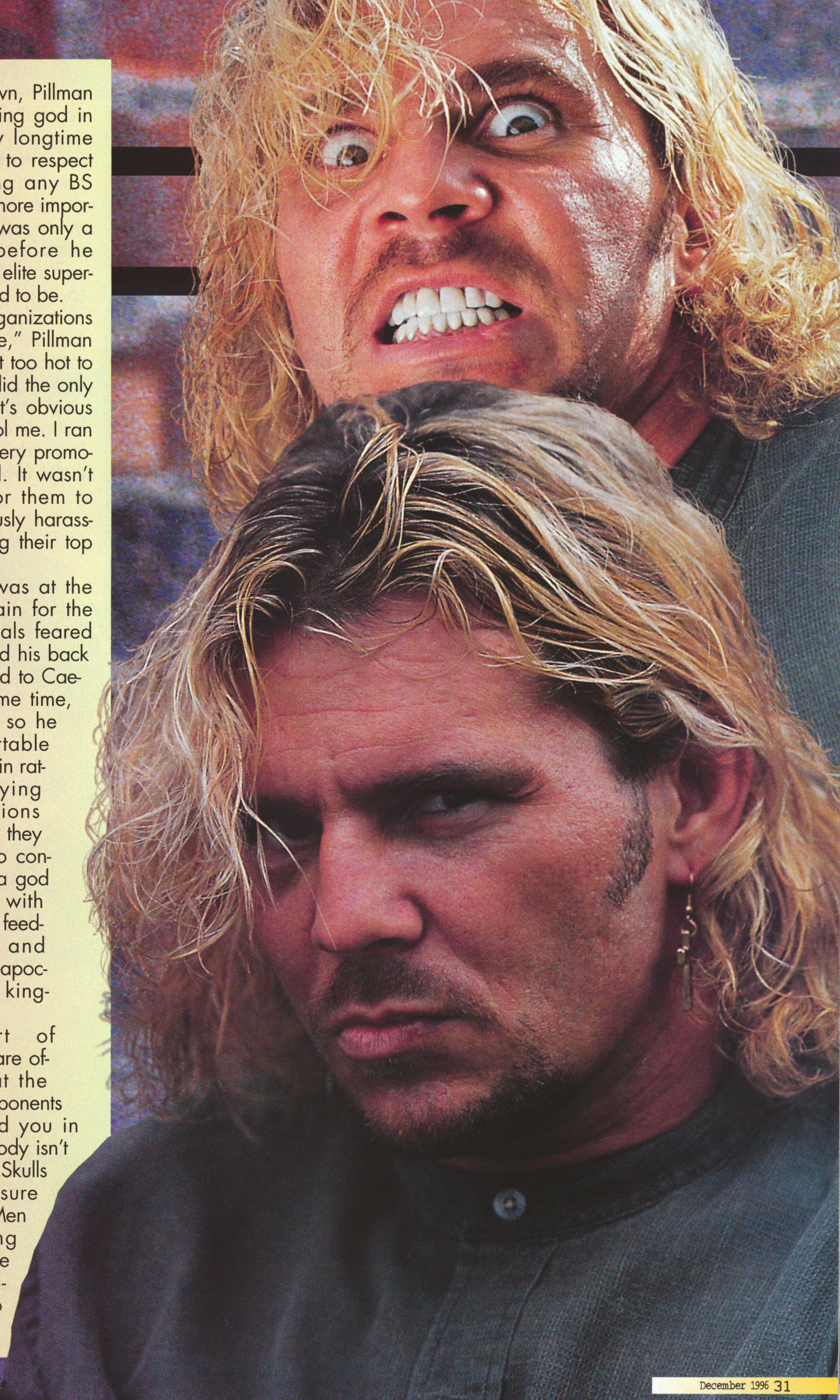
Need we say more? That about sums up what made Brian Pillman step foot into the ranks of the Federation—a major stack of greenbacks. Some of his peers wonder what changed Brian Pillman from a generous athlete to a professional free agent. Did facing death in a major car crash change him for the worse? Did the fact that he had to rely on crutches for support for a prolonged period of time make his heart blacken? No... none of the above. The birth of Pillman's free-agent market value was conceived long before he signed on the dotted line. Years ago, while Brian was still flying through other "quagmire organizations", as he would call them, he realized there were only two ways to climb the ladder in society—you either kiss lots of you-know-what or MAKE someone notice you! Pillman soon found a mountain of success with the latter. The one element that he figured out would catapult him to the top was... UNPREDICTABILITY!

Organizations soon found themselves unable to control Pillman's "free-spirited" nature. They tried to strap him down with stipulations that would make him quit his new-found ideology, but the "Time Bomb" just wouldn't give them any respect in that department. To put it simply, Pillman just wasn't playing by their book... or rules! He realized he was becoming bigger than the very organizations that he was wrestling for and that made a few of the officials hot under the collar. City after city, town after town, Pillman was now a wrestling god in the eyes of many longtime fans. They started to respect him for not taking any BS from anyone and more important, they knew it was only a matter of time before he would become the elite superstar he was destined to be.

"Those other organizations couldn't handle me," Pillman said recently. "I got too hot to handle, and they did the only thing they could. It's obvious they couldn't control me. I ran roughshod over every promotion I encountered. It wasn't good business for them to have me continuously harassing and humiliating their top stars!"

Brian Pillman was at the top of the mountain for the time being. Officials feared him plotting behind his back much like Brutus did to Caesar and at the same time, fluffing his pillow so he would be comfortable and continue to gain ratings. As the saying goes—organizations couldn't stop him... they could only hope to contain him. He was a god ruling his empire with hordes of servants feeding him wine and grapes. And then apocalypse struck the kingdom of plenty...

In the sport of wrestling, careers are often terminated at the drop of a hat. Opponents could easily bend you in ways the human body isn't meant to be bent. Skulls can crack... pressure points can burst. Men thrive on hurting other men... it's the nature of the business. There are so



many ways to watch your career fly out the window in this sport.

The thought of a 150-pound drunken driver and a 2,000-pound out-of-control car was something that Pillman never imagined would snatch him from the brink of glory.

Driving home one night in his off-road Hummer, Brian was struck by a drunken driver and was ejected from his automobile. His Hummer—now a twisted piece of fiery metal—almost paled to the condition Pillman was in. Brian was airlifted to a local hospital for emergency surgery, while his Hummer went up in flames... it was a miracle in itself that Pillman wasn't in it when it burst into an inferno. After arriving at the hospital, Pillman was diagnosed with numerous injuries—most significantly his ankle, which resembled the likeness of a jigsaw puzzle. Doctors feared he would never wrestle again, and then they had to explain that to the man in the bed.

Pillman simply laughed in their faces! How dare they say he would never be able to tell another person to #$@# off?! Pillman didn't see these doctors as saviors... he saw them as big bullies about to take his lifeblood away from him! When you are sitting on top of a mountain of potential success, nothing—not even near death—can take away the fact that people know who you are... and they FEAR you!

"Those crutches didn't bother me one bit," Pillman said. "I was quite capable of kicking !@#$% on crutches any time I felt like it! They told me I couldn't get in the ring until I received a medical release from those quack doctors... obviously they forgot who made the !@#$% rules!"

Strangely enough, while lying in his hospital bed, little did Brian Pillman know that many of the top organizations were gunning for his "John Hancock" on a major contract offer. They had begun to realize what an asset Brian Pillman would be, crutches or no crutches. He generated interest, and interest would equal cashflow. He was indeed the complete package for any organization—a free-agent athlete with ability and the potential to generate ratings. Soon thereafter, Brian Pillman signed with the World Wrestling Federation—a major leap for both Federation officials and Brian Pillman.

Even though he remained on crutches until his physical scars disappeared, top Federation superstars were already preparing for this doomsday machine to enter the ring. They know what Pillman can do—some have experienced it firsthand—and we all know how whispers swirl in the locker room. Even on those two sticks that supported his frame, many feared the "Time Bomb". They wondered who his first target would be once he was 100% healthy. That very answer came straight from Pillman's mouth.

"I plan on going straight for the Federation title of course," Pillman said recently on America Online. But I can only imagine that the Federation brass will attempt to saddle me with pointless matches in an attempt to make me work my way up the ladder."

That "ladder" leads straight to the top of the World Wrestling Federation—the pinnacle of sports-entertainment. And slowly but surely, the "brass" is going to have to deal with the fact that a revolution is about to occur... and its leader may be ascending to the throne.

PERSONALITY PROFILE

Favorite Band:

Led Zeppelin

Biggest Thrill In Life:

Bringing my son into the world... AND MAYBE SOMEDAY HE CAN BE JUST LIKE DEAR OLD DAD!!

Person You Would Most Like To Meet:

Saddam Hussein! Just so I could show that !@#$ what a REAL bomb is!

Favorite Sport (besides wrestling):

Football! I played for the Cincinnati Bengals you !@#$ moron!

Favorite Athlete:

Dick Butkis of the Chicago Bears... he ALWAYS exploded off the line!

Favorite Television Show:

Cops! It's the only television show that brings me to tears... BECAUSE I'M LAUGHING SO MUCH WHEN I WATCH IT!

Hobbies:

Skiing and hurting people! And sometimes I do them both at the same time!

Favorite Fast Food:

Anything at Wendy's... because I LOVE to harass the working class jokes getting paid $4 an hour!

Favorite Video Game:

Who needs to play video games when I can crack arms and legs in real life?

Favorite Cartoon Character:

Wile E. Coyotte

Favorite Actor:

Al Pacino, the original unpredictable "Time Bomb"!

Favorite Actress:

Sharon Stone—a woman who doesn't take #$@* from anyone!

Favorite Food:

Steak and lobster! What else would a rich free agent like myself eat?

Best Advice Ever Received:

Get the job done yourself! You can't rely on other !@#$ idiots to get things done properly!

Secret Talent:

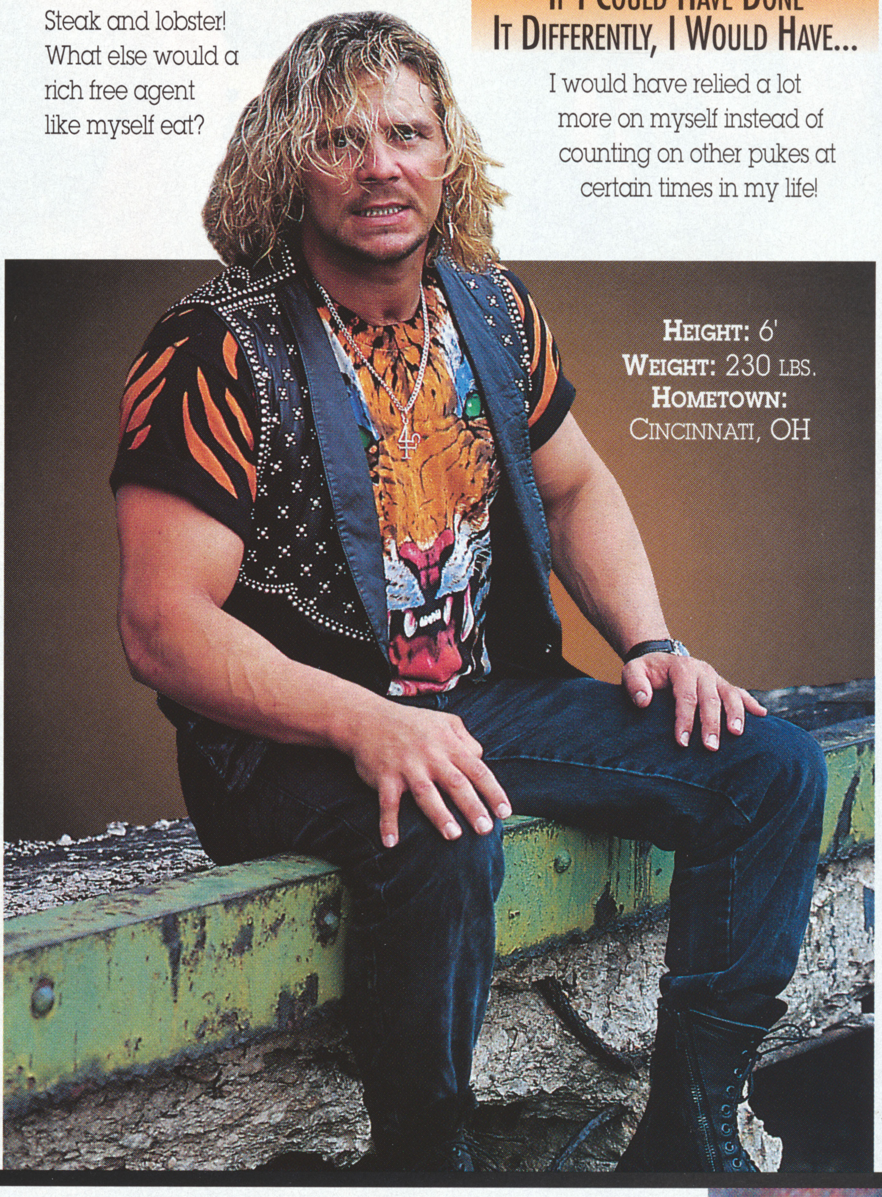
My talent is no secret! As a matter of fact, it's so obvious that it makes me want to !@#$ puke!

Favorite Movie:

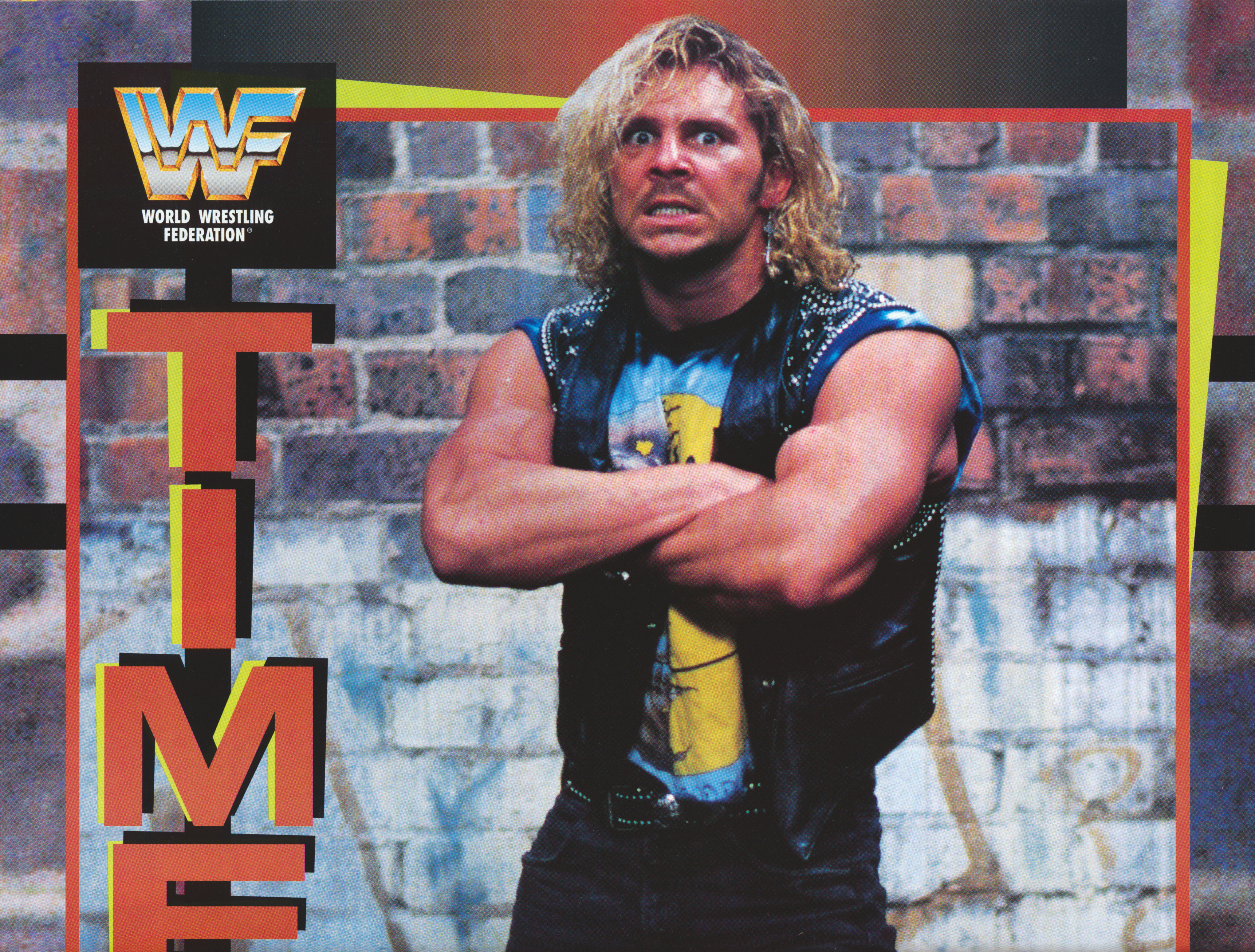
Scarface with Al Pacino.

If I Could Have Done It Differently, I Would Have...

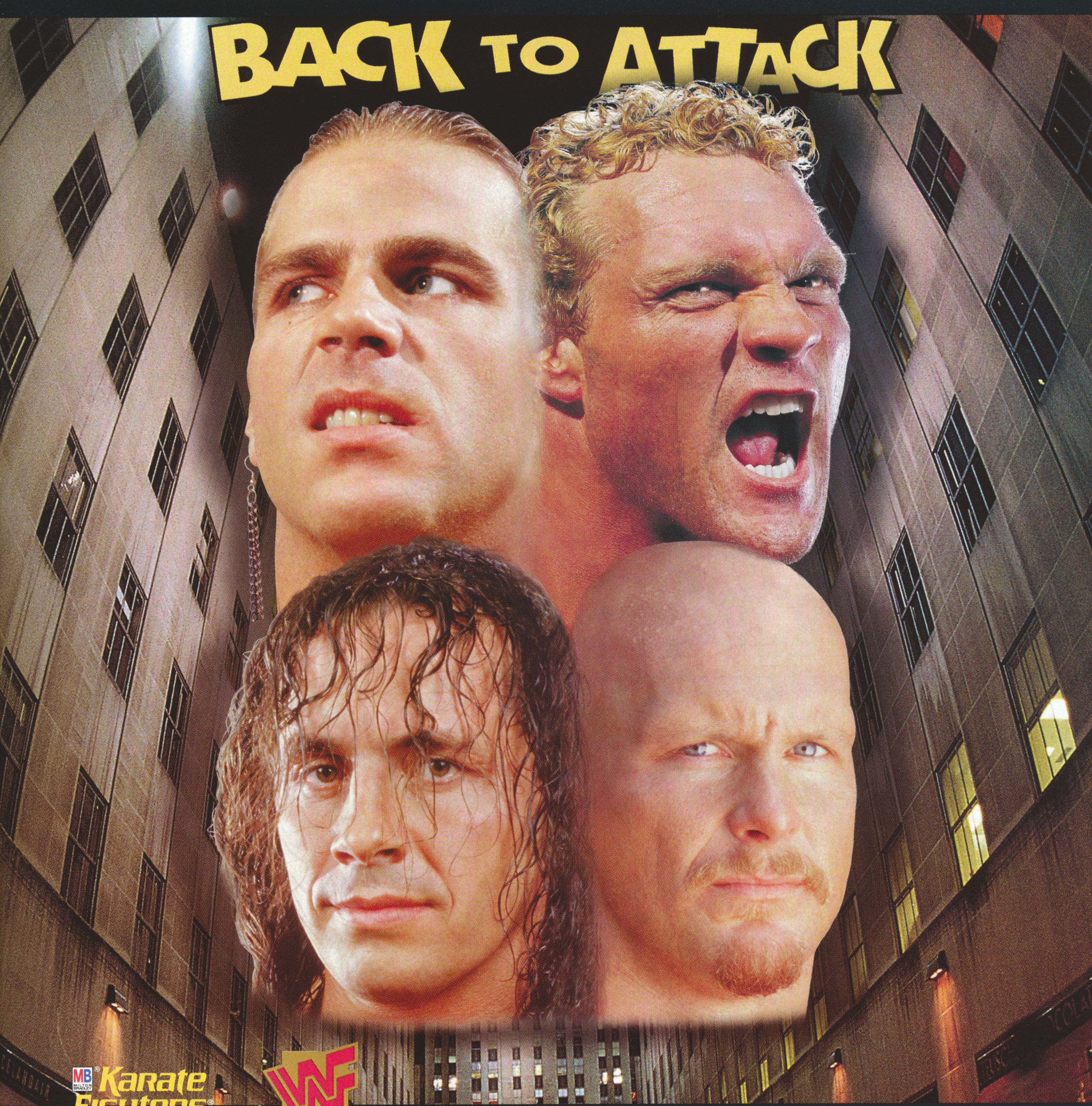
I would have relied a lot more on myself instead of counting on other pukes at certain times in my life!



Height: 6'
Weight: 230 lbs.
Hometown:
Cincinnati, OH


WWF
WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION®
TIME

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION®



MB MILTON BRADLEY® Karate Fighters® presents WF®

SURVIVOR SERIES®

CALL YOUR CABLE COMPANY TO ORDER

Live! on Pay Per View!

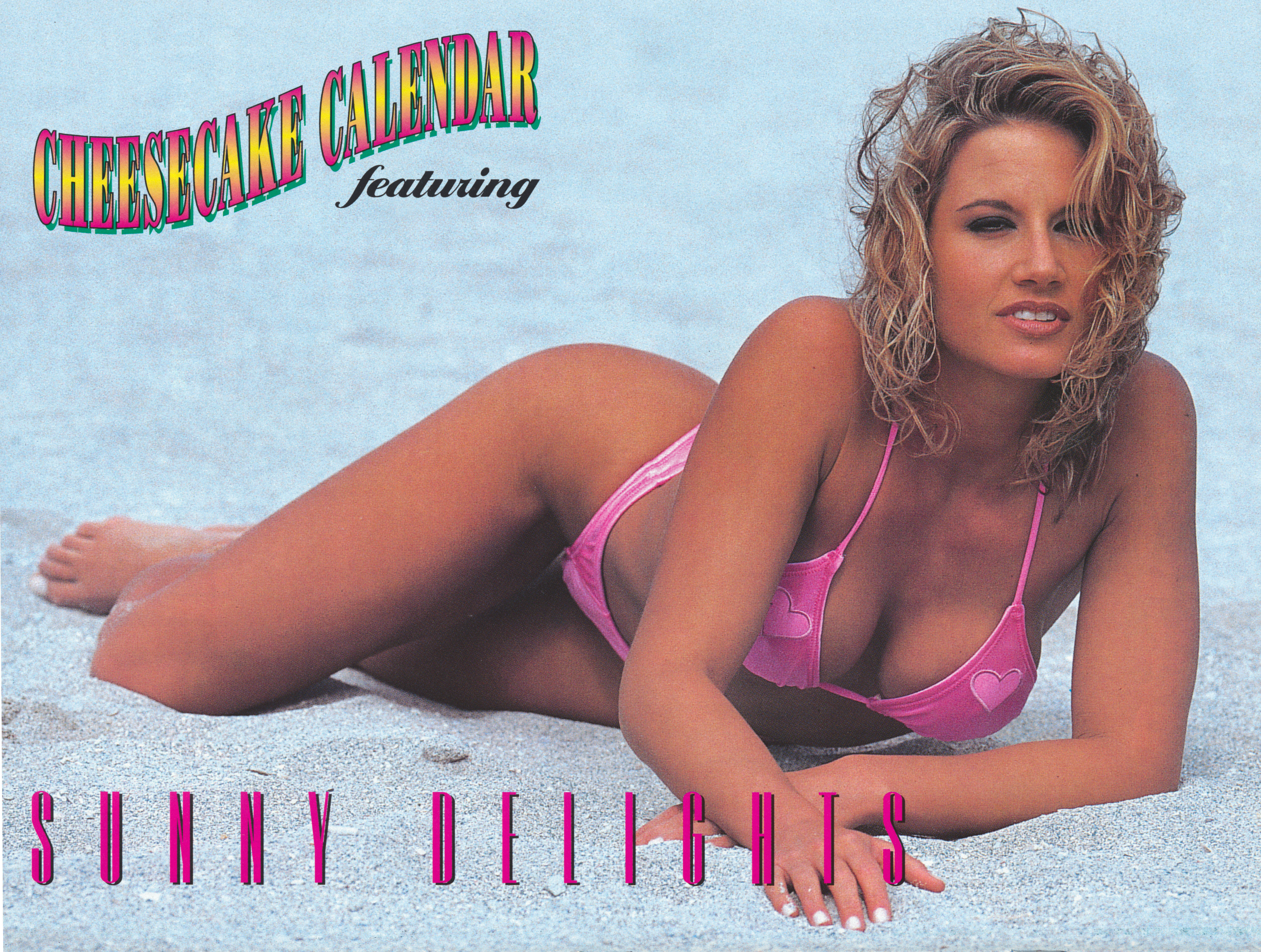
Sunday, November 17

7PM ET / 4PM PT Replay 10PM ET / 7PM PT

FREE FOR ALL FREE 30 Minutes of ACTION!! Watch FREE FOR ALL™ on the Preview Channel, 30 minutes prior to event.

Call 1-800-DIRECTV (1-800-347-3288) for the DSS dealer nearest you. Or for back yard dish reception call PRIMETIME 24 at 1-800-989-7526

©1996 TitanSports, Inc. All rights reserved. ©1996 Milton Bradley Company, a division of Hasbro, Inc. All rights reserved.


CHEESECAKE CALENDAR
featuring
SUNNY DELIGHTS

NOVEMBER 1996

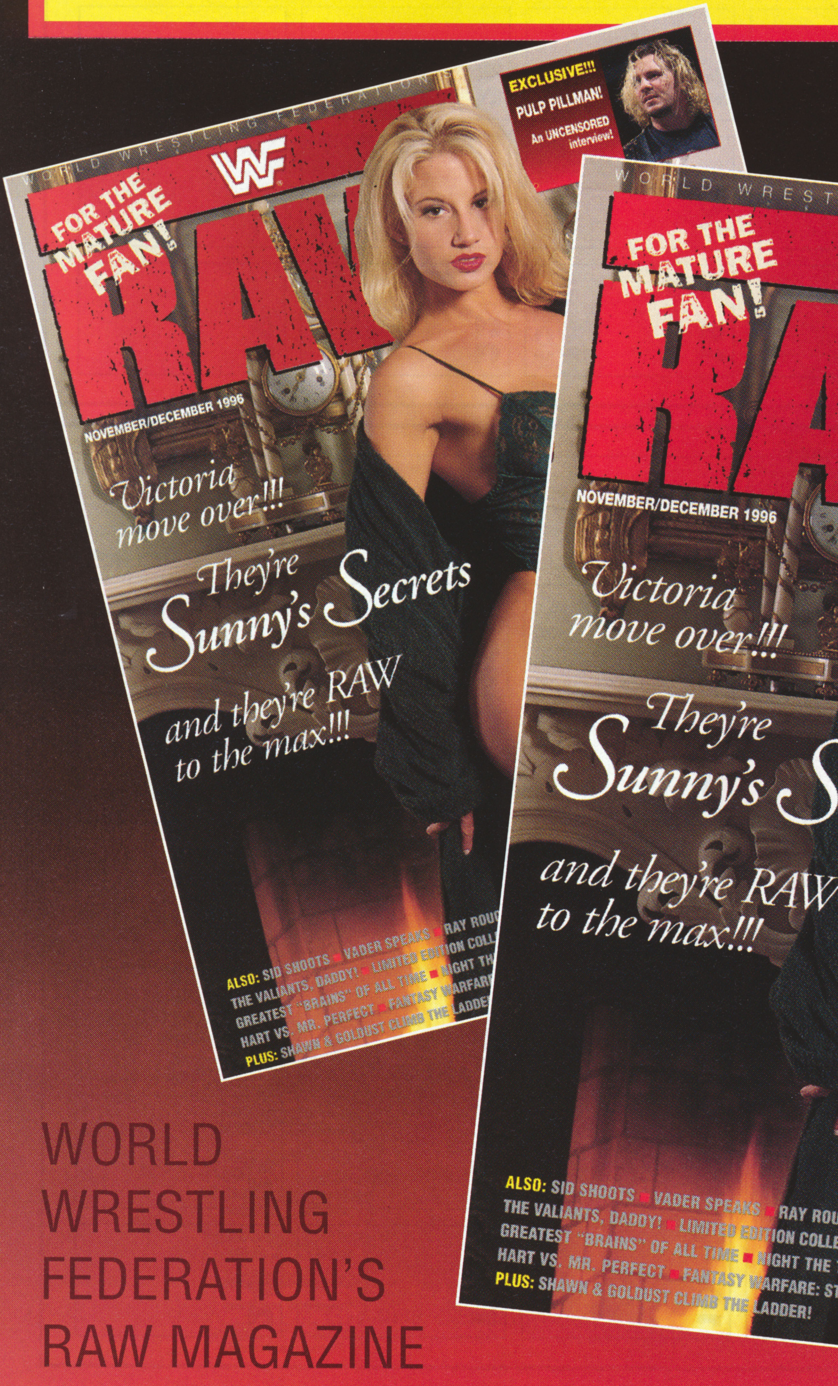
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1 Billy Gunn's Birthday	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 SURVIVOR SERIES	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 BRITISH BULLDOG'S BIRTHDAY	28	29 Justin "Hawk" Bradshaw, Uncle Zeb and Jerry "The King" Lawler have birthdays	30

DECEMBER 1996

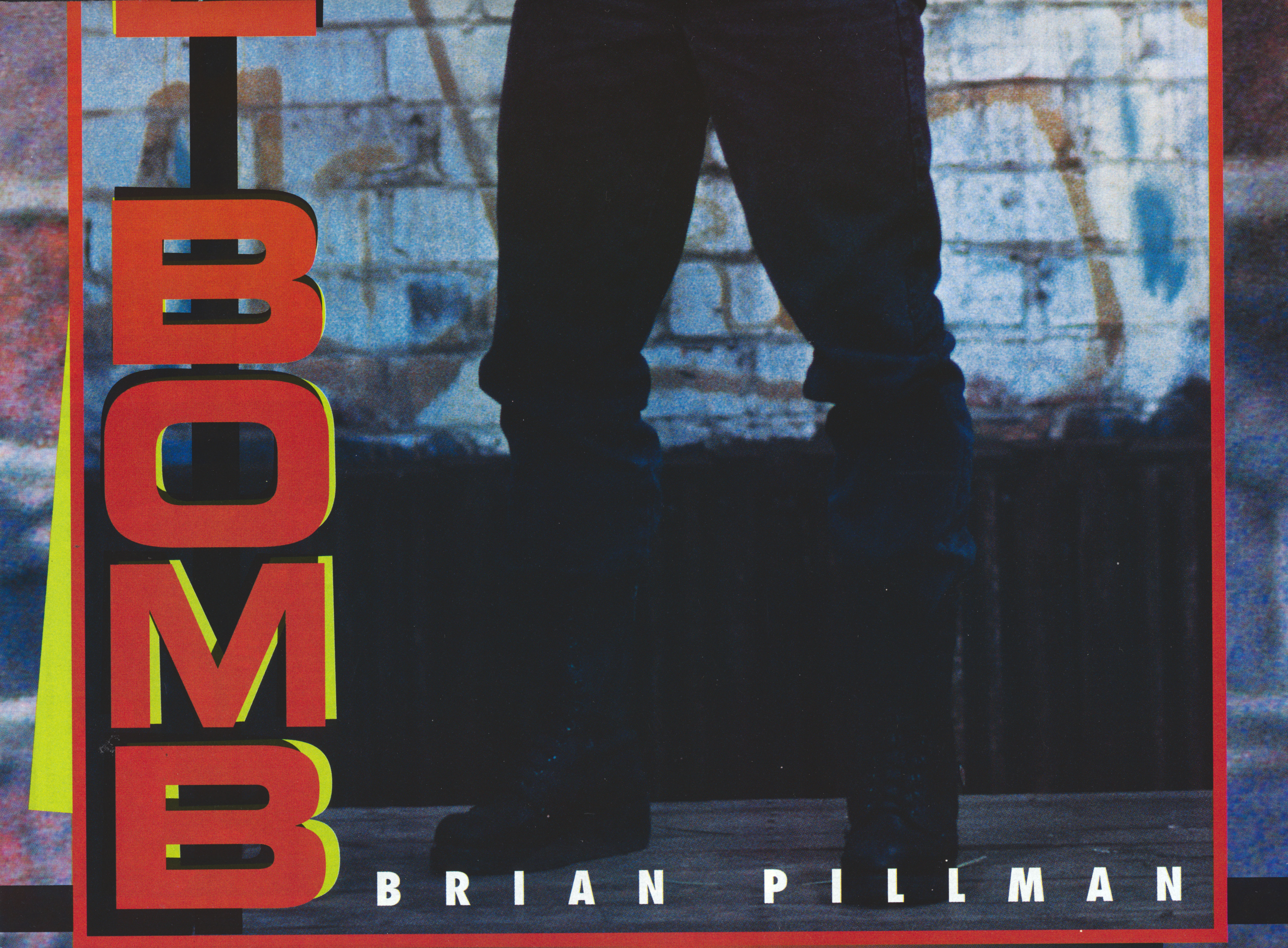
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 SUNNY'S BIRTHDAY
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 IN YOUR HOUSE	16 SYCHO SID'S B-DAY	17	18 STONE COLD STEVE AUSTIN'S BIRTHDAY	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 PHINEAS GODWINN'S BIRTHDAY	27 BART GUNN'S BIRTHDAY	28
29	30	31				

NOW AVAILABLE

AT NEWSSTANDS EVERYWHERE!


WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION'S
WWF
FOR THE MATURE FAN!
RAW
NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1996
EXCLUSIVE!!!
PULP PILLMAN!
An UNCENSORED interview!
Page 12
Victoria move over!!!
They're Sunny's Secrets
and they're RAW to the max!!!
ALSO: SID SHOOTS ■ VADER SPEAKS ■ RAY ROUGEAU KO'S OWEN ■ REMEMBERING THE VALIANTS, DADDY! ■ LIMITED EDITION COLLECTOR'S SERIES PREVIEW ■ RANKING THE GREATEST "BRAINS" OF ALL TIME ■ EIGHT THE TITLE CHANGED HANDS: BRET "HIT MAN" HART VS. MR. PERFECT ■ FANTASY WARFARE: STONE COLD VS. THE TIME BOMB
PLUS: SHAWN & GOLDUST CLIMB THE LADDER!
$3.95 U.S. $4.95 CANADA
PRINTED IN U.S.A.

WORLD
WRESTLING
FEDERATION'S
RAW MAGAZINE


BOMB
BRIAN PILLMAN

®Registered Trademark of TitanSports, Inc.©1996 TitanSports, Inc. All rights reserved. Printed in USA.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

The "Time Bomb" Brian Pillman—quite possibly the most sought-after free agent in the history of sports-entertainment—signed a much-anticipated contract with the World Wrestling Federation this past June in front of numerous members of the media. After surviving a brutal accident in which his vehicle burst into flames, reporters and Federation officials alike thought they would see a "changed" Brian Pillman that day... how wrong they were! The "Time Bomb" once again showed that he defines the word "unpredictable", launching an all-out verbal assault on the media!

Still relatively new to the ranks of the Federation, Pillman proved to the world that with or without his crutches, he was a force to be reckoned with. During a match involving the Bushwhackers, Pillman—still using the sticks for support—walked down to ringside to what fans seemingly thought was to enjoy a match involving Luke and Butch. After a win by the "pair from down under", Pillman viciously blindsided the Bushwhackers with his crutches, laying them out cold! Luke and Butch were only trying to be friendly... but the "Time Bomb" certainly cleaned their clocks!

On a recent *Superstars*, the "Time Bomb" made a shocking promise to the world that few could believe! Sitting at the announcer's booth, Pillman bragged that he was going to deliver Bret "Hit Man" Hart at September's *In Your House: Mindgames*! BUT you should never trust someone as unpredictable as Pillman! There was no Bret at *In Your House*... just "Time Bomb" Brian Pillman mocking us all, simply because we believed him!

COOL...

DYNAMITE puzzles and games • Full-color pull-out POSTERS • Music, movie and video game REVIEWS.

COOLER...

Slammin' STORIES and SENSATIONAL color PHOTOS of the AWESOME World Wrestling Federation SUPERSTARS in action.

COOLEST...

Nine FREE Collector's Edition TRADING CARDS in every issue featuring the FEDERATION SUPERSTARS. (They're absolutely, positively not in newsstand copies.)

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION MAGAZINE.

Subscribe **NOW** and **SAVE 58% OFF** the newsstand price!

IT'S WAY COOL.

Return this coupon or call

904-445-4320

YES! I want to **CHILL OUT** with **WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION MAGAZINE.**

Send me:

☐ 24 issues just $35.00—it's like getting 14 issues **FREE! I SAVE 58%**

☐ 12 issues just $19.97—that's like getting 6 issues **FREE! I SAVE 52%**

Name (please print) Date of Birth / /

Address

City State Zip

Send payment to TITANSPORTS, INC., at
P.O. Box 420174, Palm Coast, Florida 32142-9814

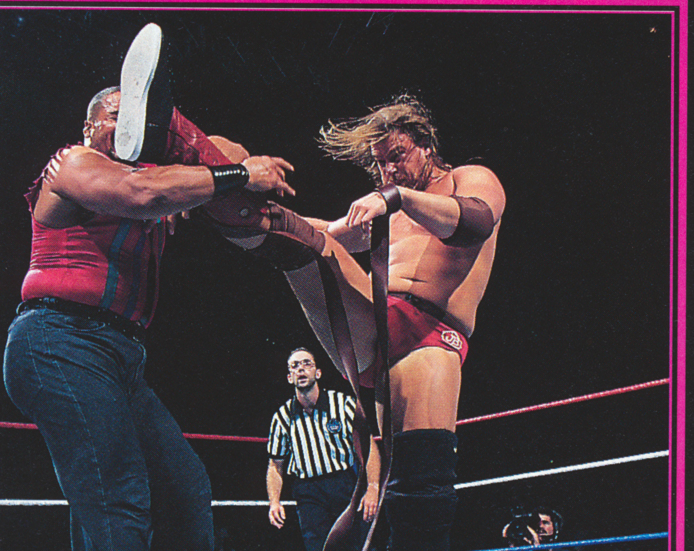
Basic U.S. subscription rate is 12 issues/$24.00, 24 issues/$35.00, single copy price $3.50. Allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. U.S. funds only. No foreign credit orders.

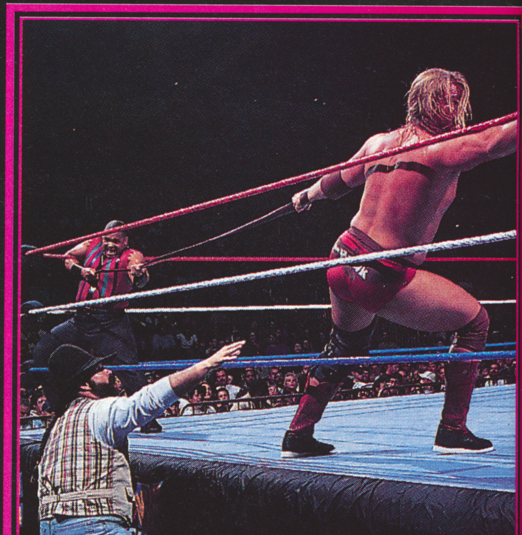
H603DC

IN YOUR HOUSE MIND GAMES RESULTS

BY KEITH ELLIOT GREENBERG

CARIBBEAN STRAP MATCH: SAVIO VEGA VS. JUSTIN "HAWK" BRADSHAW



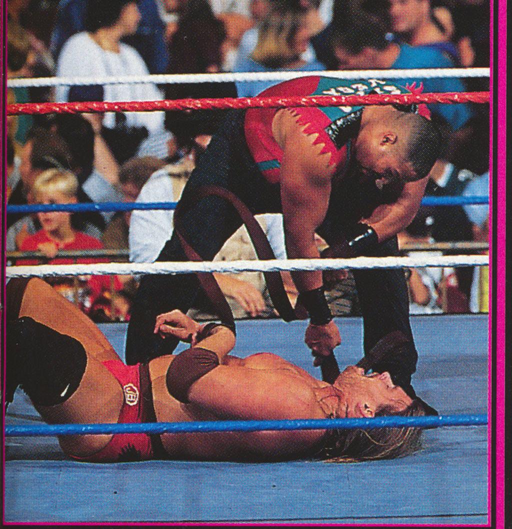


The rules stipulated that a leather strap would be tethered to both men, and victory would be declared when one wrestler consecutively touched all four corners of the ring. This was supposed to be Savio Vega's type of match, but Bradshaw took the early advantage, whipping his opponent and choking him with the strap before the bell even rang.

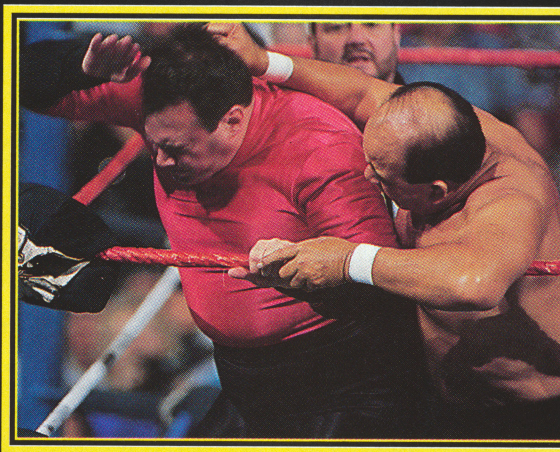
Once the match officially started, Bradshaw positioned his adversary next to the ringpost on the arena floor, and tied the strap around his neck. Vega broke free and yanked the thong, smashing Bradshaw's shoulder into the post. But as Savio surged, members of a local wrestling promotion tossed drinks at him. Vega

SAVIO VEGA — **"NO COWBOY IS GOING TO BEAT SAVIO VEGA IN A CARIBBEAN STRAP MATCH. TONIGHT, BRADSHAW'S BARK WAS BIGGER THAN HIS BITE!"**

JUSTIN "HAWK" BRADSHAW — **"I KNEW THAT SOONER OR LATER CHEATIN' WAS GONNA BE SAVIO VEGA'S ONLY CHANCE OF BEATIN' ME!"**



ignored the distraction, but Bradshaw quickly gained an edge. In the ring, he held Savio in a headlock and touched three corners of the ring. Before Bradshaw could reach the fourth, Vega suplexed him backwards and slashed him repeatedly with the strap. It was then Savio's turn to touch three buckles, but Bradshaw pulled him into the center of the ring before he could complete the cycle. Still, Savio was able to rebound, disabling his opponent with a spinning heel kick and touching three corners again, only to be yanked away from the final turnbuckle. Tying the strap around Savio, Bradshaw trooped from corner to corner, slapping each turnbuckle. What he didn't realize was that Vega also touched the corners as he was dragged around the ring. Before the final buckle was reached, Savio challenged his adversary to a tug of war. Relying more on emotion than ring wisdom, Bradshaw pulled his foe forward—right into the fourth corner. An exhausted Vega rolled from the ring, the winner of the match.



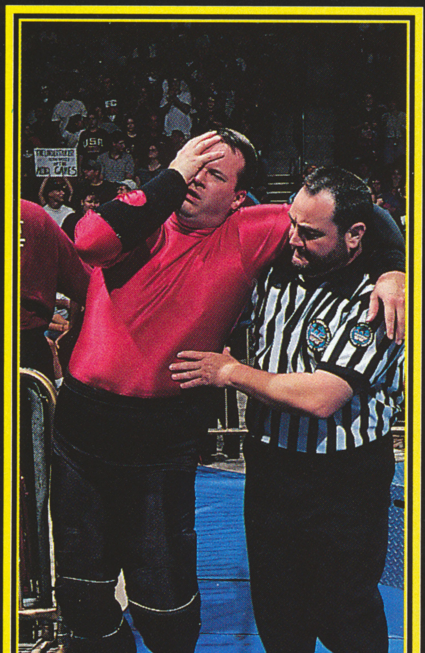
JOSE LOTHARIO VS. JIM CORNETTE

This was a unique match-up, pitting Federation Champion Shawn Michaels' mentor, Jose Lothario, against the captain of Camp Cornette.

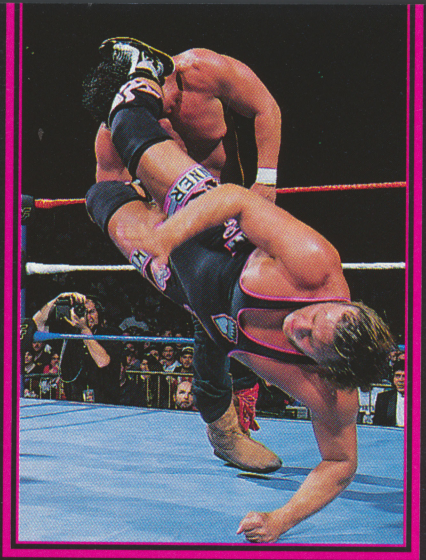
The 62-year-old Lothario—a legend of the mat in Texas and Mexico—started hot and never cooled off. He Irish-whipped Cornette off the ropes and met him with a fist to the mouth. When the manager sat on the canvas, grabbed the ropes and begged for mercy, Lothario lifted him by the feet and dropped him. Holding his lower back, Cornette staggered to the corner, where Lothario rammed his head into the turnbuckle. Cornette wobbled to the center of the ring. Lothario positioned himself a few feet away, waited for Cornette to turn around, zapped him with a haymaker, followed with an uppercut and got the three-count.

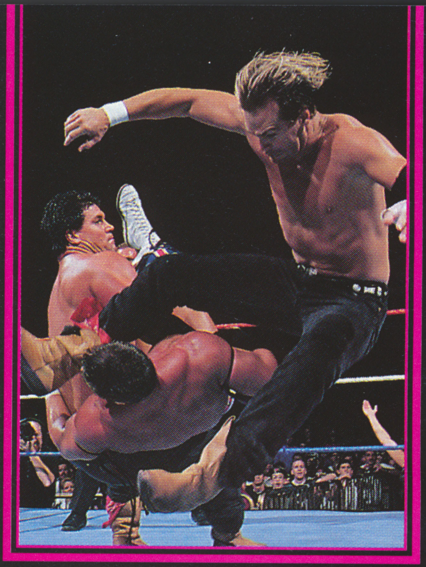
JAMES E. CORNETTE — "THE GUY USED MORE GIMMICKS [FOREIGN OBJECTS] IN THAT RING THAN A FULLER BRUSH MAN!"

JOSE LOTHARIO — "I WANT TO THANK THE KLIQ FOR GETTING BEHIND ME — I ONLY WISH THE SHOW WAS LONGER!"



IN YOUR HOUSE RESULTS





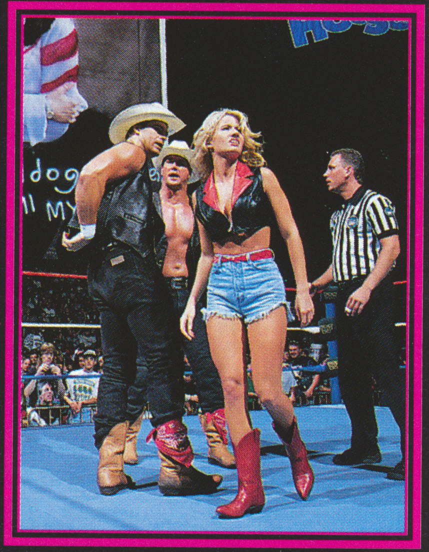
SMOKING GUNNS (WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS) VS. OWEN HART & THE BRITISH BULLDOG

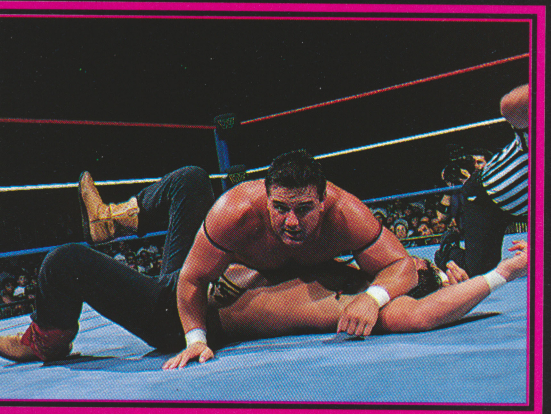
Shapely Sunny sashayed to the ring, arm in arm with Billy Gunn. As Billy stared into her eyes, Sunny's gaze was fixed on the Federation tag team belt around her man's waist. But Sunny's mood quickly changed when Owen and the Bulldog revealed a giant poster of Sunny they had defaced.

Because Hart and the Bulldog's manager, Jim Cornette, was still recuperating from his match with Lothario, attorney Clarence Mason came to ringside to cheer on the team. But Owen was so distracted when he saw Mason walk down the aisle that Billy nearly rolled him up for a three-count.

BILLY GUNN — **"FORGET THE BELTS, WHERE'S SUNNY!"**

BART GUNN — **"ALL I HAVE TO SAY IS THAT MY BROTHER BILLY BETTER GET HIS !@#$ TOGETHER... AND SOON!"**





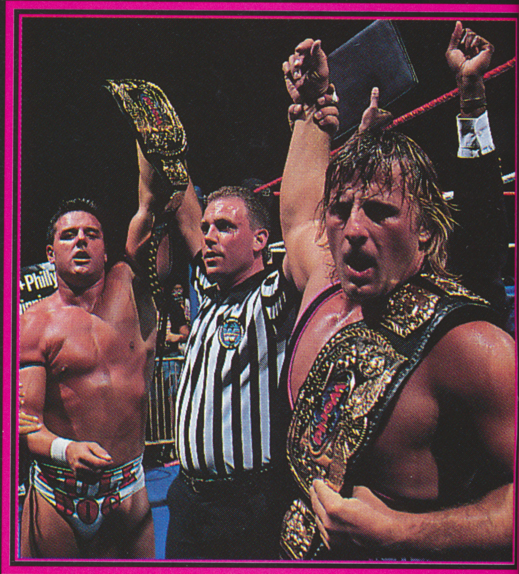
His team inched ahead, however, when Owen and the Bulldog pooled their efforts to zero in on Bart Gunn's injured left leg. Owen tried polishing off his foe with a Boston crab, but Bart grabbed the ropes to break the move. Bulldog tagged in and hurt Bart with a vertical suplex, followed by a legdrop. As the Bulldog ran the ropes, Billy slugged him from the rear. The Bulldog turned around to respond and Bart snuck up on him with a clothesline. Billy kicked his foe on the arena floor, then slung him into the ring steps.

Back in the ring, Bart whipped the Bulldog into the corner, then fell to all fours. Billy charged across the ring, propelled himself off his brother's back and caught the side of the Bulldog's head with a forearm. The Gunns were in the process of eliminating their opponent with a sidewinder, when Mason hopped onto the apron and argued with the referee in a verbal sparring session—allowing Owen to break up the pin attempt with a dive from the ropes.

The Gunns' arsenal fell apart at this point. When Bart lifted the Bulldog for a powerslam, the

SUNNY — **"I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN THAT BUTCH AND SUNDANCE WERE LOSERS FROM THE START!"**

CLARENCE MASON — **"I DID IT! I DID IT! THE WORLD IS MINE—ALL MINE!"**



Britisher slipped free and shoved Billy—who was chatting with Sunny on the apron rather than concentrating on the match. An irate Bart shoved his brother, who was quickly scooped up by the Bulldog and powerslammed.

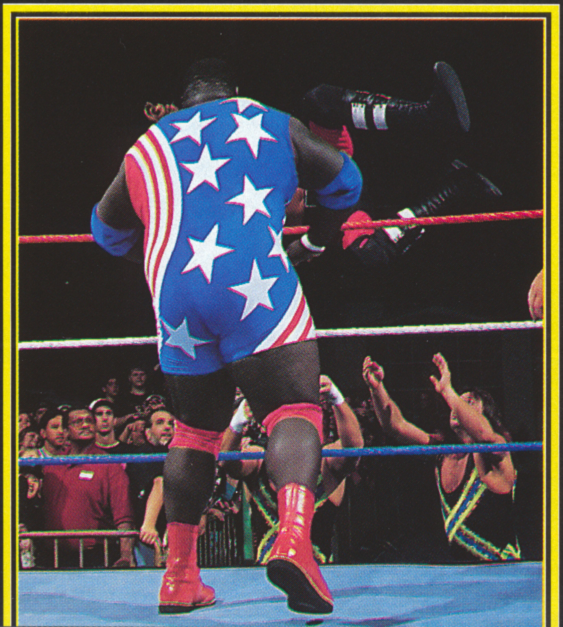
As Billy rushed in to even the odds, Owen hit him with a spinning kick. There was no one to save Bart, as the Bulldog hooked his leg and scored the pin.

Sunny screamed in horror as the referee handed the tag team belts to Owen and the Bulldog. She grabbed the microphone and berated the Gunns. She branded them "no good cowboy wannabes" and then fired them. She then stomped back to the locker room, as Billy pursued her like a puppy dog.

MARK HENRY VS. JERRY "THE KING" LAWLER

Mark Henry—the world's strongest man—is usually able to maintain his composure. But Lawler had done everything to unhinge him by throwing coffee in his face earlier in the weekend, and—shortly before the card began—slapping him during an interview.

Henry came to the ring primed for his first Pay-Per-View match. Lawler immediately clamped on a side headlock, but was shocked when his inexperienced foe busted free, applied a hammerlock and powered "The King" to the mat.



Henry put Lawler in a side headlock, but Lawler released himself and applied a hammerlock. Henry reversed the maneuver and shoved Lawler face-first into the buckles. Responding foolishly, Lawler crouched down to bodyslam Henry. The powerhouse didn't budge and he hoisted Lawler up into a gorilla press and slam.

Lawler next tried a running shoulder block once—and then a second time—hitting a brick wall on both occasions. The King charged his foe again and Henry got behind him, thrusting him through the ropes onto the floor. Realizing he couldn't beat the strongman with strength, Lawler blasted him twice with a foreign object. It was a stupid thing to do.

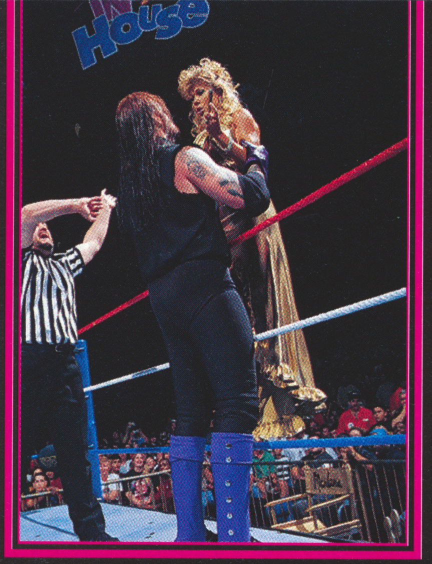
Enraged, Henry drove a knee into Lawler's midsection and chopped him across the head. Lawler tried bailing out, but Henry pulled him back into the center of the ring, spun him upside down and got a submission with a backbreaker.

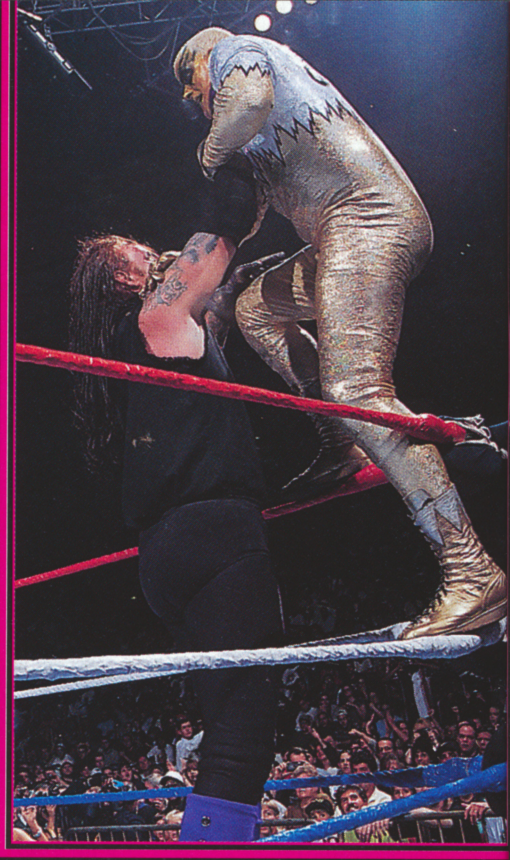
The fans were still cheering when New Rocker Leif Cassidy swept up behind Henry and whacked him. Henry turned around and hurled his tormentor over the ropes. Cassidy's partner Marty Jannetty next charged the ring and also ended up dispatched to the floor. Finally, Hunter Hearst-Helmsley came in and delivered a series of fists and forearms. He tried whipping Henry into the ropes, but the Olympian reversed the move, pressed Helmsley over the shoulders and deposited him on top of the New Rockers at ringside.

MARK HENRY — "I'M JUST HAPPY TO GET THAT FIRST VICTORY UNDER MY BELT. NOW I CAN ONLY GET BETTER!"

JERRY "THE KING" LAWLER — "WHAT DID YOU EXPECT. THE GUY SLAPPED ME UPSIDE THE HEAD WITH A DUMBBELL WHEN THE REFEREE WASN'T LOOKING!"

IN YOUR HOUSE RESULTS





FINAL CURTAIN MATCH: THE UNDERTAKER VS. GOLDUST

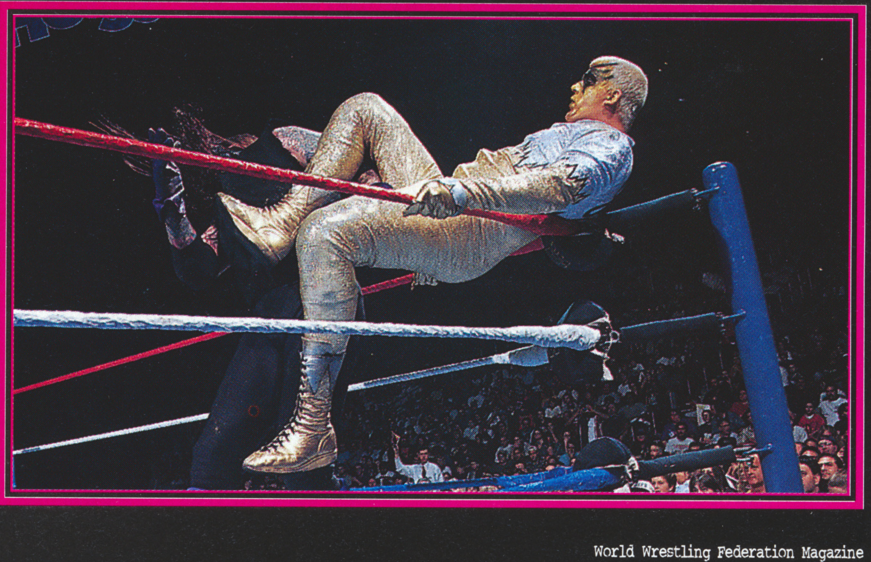
Hoping to finally put the seal on their long feud, Undertaker pounced on Goldust at the opening bell, chokeslamming and legdropping him for a two-count. Goldust turned things around by driving Undertaker's neck into the top rope. Then, the Flamboyant One's "director" Marlena slapped the Man from the Dark Side across the face.

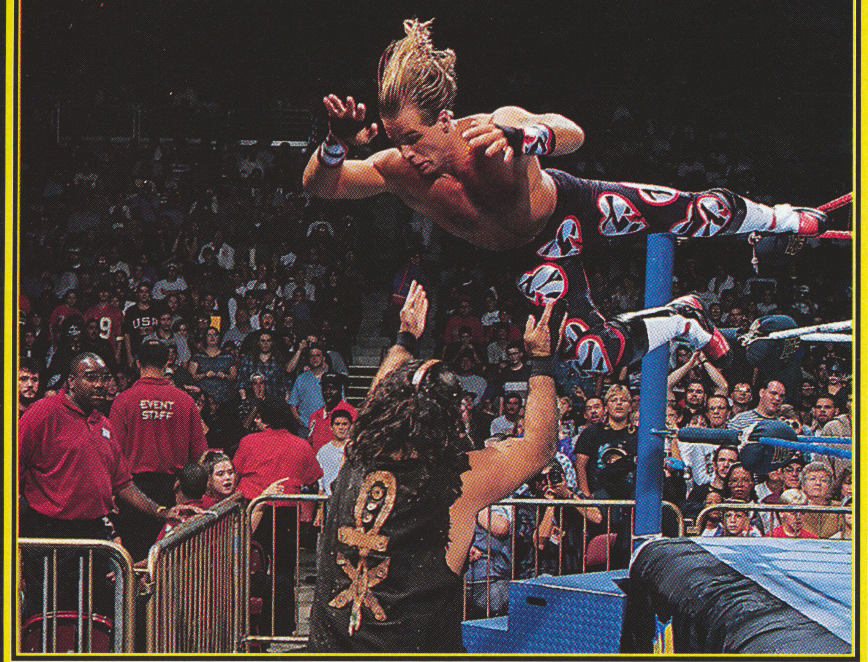
Undertaker was next subjected to Goldust's swinging neckbreaker. But the Grim Reaper rose from the canvas and stunned Goldust with a neck thrust, big boot and vertical suplex. Walking the ropes, Undertaker held Goldust in a wristlock, then jumped onto the limb and pitched him to ringside. There, Marlena handed Goldust a gold pouch. The director stepped onto the apron, where the Undertaker ripped her by the arms and shook her in the air. When he put her down, his foe released a handful of gold powder into the Reaper's eyes.

Undertaker groped around aimlessly, while Goldust thrashed him. Finally, Undertaker grabbed his foe around the neck, tossed him into the corner, and pounded him with bodyshots. Goldust fought back with a powerslam and Undertaker replied with an elbow off the ropes. When Goldust attempted to mount the buckles, Undertaker reached up, grabbed his opponent around the neck and hurled him onto the mat. Spinning Goldust upside down, the Undertaker delivered the Tombstone, folded his opponent's arms across his chest and finally gained a clear-cut win.

THE UNDERTAKER — "GOLDUST PAID THE PRICE FOR REVENGE TODAY, BUT AN UNFORTUNATE OTHER IS YET TO PAY A MUCH MORE 'DEADLY' PRICE."

GOLDUST — "IT'S REALLY IMPORTANT TO TRY TO HURT ME. ISN'T IT?"
***ORDINARY PEOPLE* —1980**





SHAWN MICHAELS

(WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION CHAMPION)

VS. MANKIND

Mankind entered the ring in a coffin, brought down the aisle by a group of hooded druids. While the fans cheered Michaels' entrance, Mankind clutched onto his urn—a power source stolen by manager Paul Bearer from his former protege, the Undertaker.

The urn's potency appeared to be working, as Mankind started the match by flooring his foe with punches and kicks. He whipped Michaels off the ropes, delivered a high back bodydrop, then dashed across the ring and hit Shawn with a clothesline so brutal that its momentum took both men to the floor.

Hoping to cause maximum damage, Mankind began pulling up the protective mats from ringside. But Michaels dropkicked the pad as Mankind held it and hit him square in the face. As Mankind fell, tangled up in the mat, the champion leaped up and stomped on the mess below his feet.

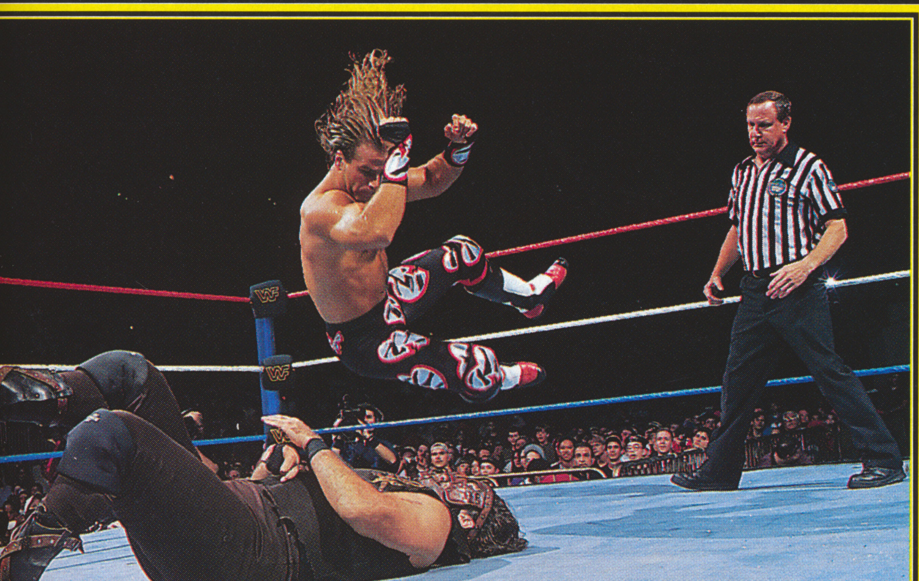
When Mankind finally cast off the padding, Michaels scampered up the turnbuckles and leveled his foe with a cross bodyblock on the arena floor.

In the ring, Mankind reversed an Irish whip and snapped a kick at his opponent. Michaels managed to catch the leg, spin the challenger around and stun him with a series of jabs. Propelling himself off the ropes, Michaels punished his rival with a clothesline, then went to the top turnbuckle and executed a flying elbow.

The fans were on their feet now and the champion was ready to deliver some Sweet Chin Music. He stomped his foot on the canvas, preparing to hit Mankind with the spinning kick. But Mankind jumped out of the ring and desperately clutched the urn.

The two traded forearms, slaps and fists in the ring. Mankind tried applying a nerve hold from behind, but Shawn deliberately fell backwards and his foe hit his head on the mat. He shook off the blow, jammed a forearm under Shawn's chin and tried filling his throat with the Mandible Claw. Michaels fought to keep his opponent's fingers away, but got an elbow to the head and was dumped at ringside. Pulling an announcer's table away from the broadcasting team, Mankind psyched himself up for more torture. But before the scheme could manifest itself, Michaels vaulted over the table and landed on Mankind.

Shawn smashed his opponent's head into the coffin and suplexed him into ringside. On the way down, the contender's knee



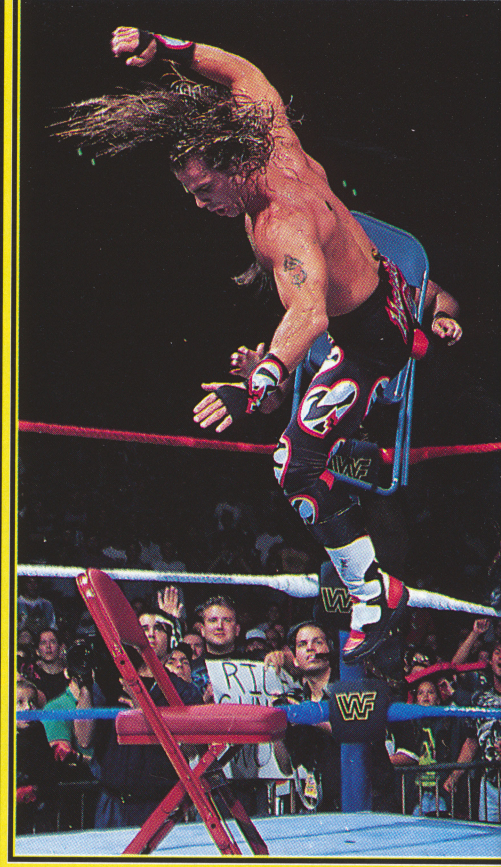
IN YOUR HOUSE RESULTS

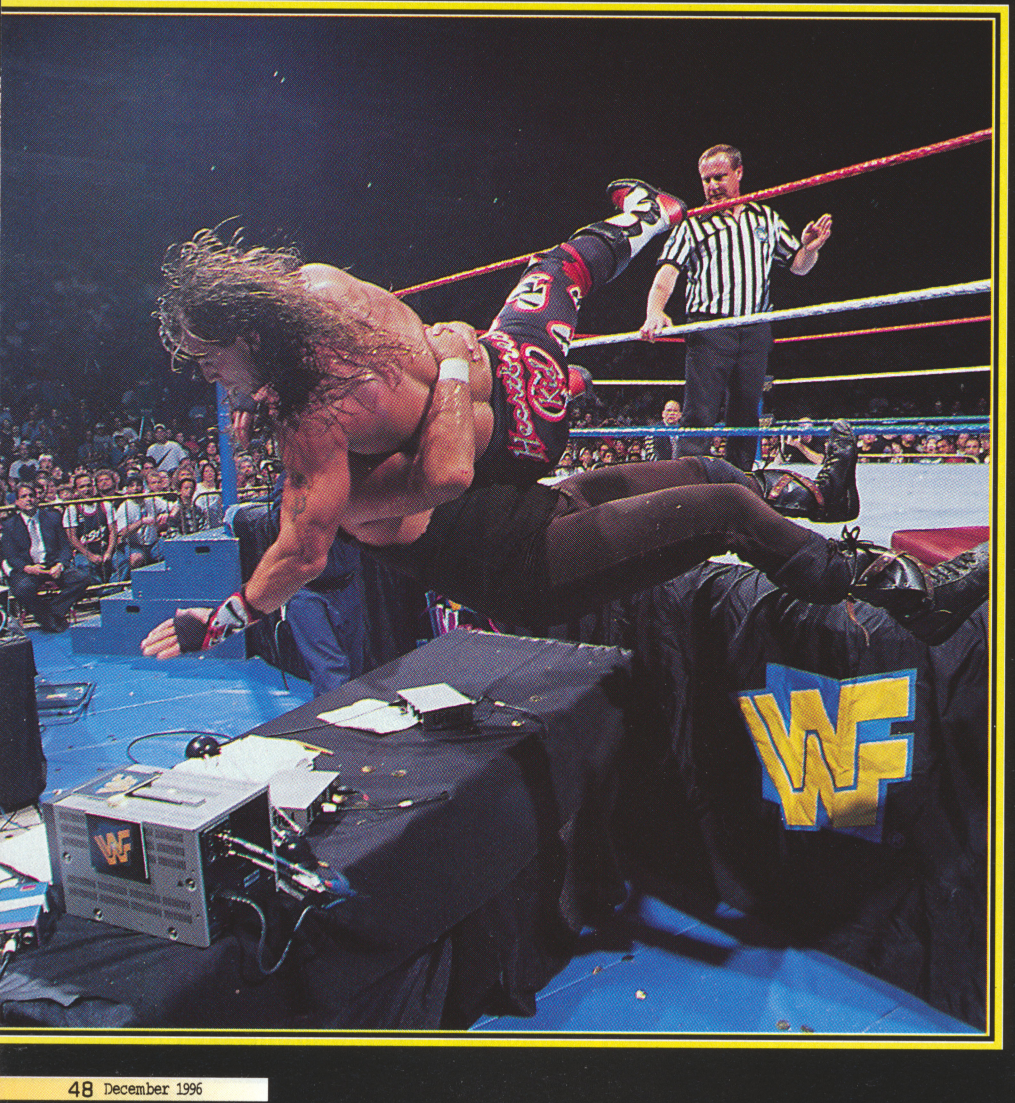
SHAWN MICHAELS (WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION CHAMPION) VS. MANKIND (CONT'D)

crashed into the steel steps leading to the ring. Mankind tried limping into the ring, but Michaels took out his opponent's wheel and rammed the knee into the casket.

Regaining a slight lead, Mankind threw a kick at his opponent with the leg in question. Shawn aggravated the damage by snaring his foe by the ankle, rolling forward and twisting the leg. The champion tried scoring a submission with a figure four leglock, but Mankind ignored his own agony. Hoping to break down the contender, Michaels dropkicked the knee and attempted a half-Boston crab. After a crucifix, Michaels went airborne, going for a reverse victory roll. But Mankind held tight to his opponent and dropped his neck across the top rope.

To prove that he was impervious to pain, Mankind took a pencil from his manager and repeatedly jabbed at the bad knee. Then he choked Michaels, slammed his head into the coffin, sat him up in the corner and ran—knee-first—into the champion's face.





Out of nowhere, Shawn pulled off a back-to-back suplex. Mankind bounced his opponent off the ropes, and Michaels slid under the challenger's legs, tripped him from the rear, blocked a punch, delivered a flurry of his own and tried an Irish whip. Mankind reversed the move and Michaels flew into the corner, tangling his feet on the top rope. The challenger turned the champ face-first onto the mat and executed a legdrop to the back of the head.

A left foot to the jaw knocked Shawn out of the ring. Mankind charged his opponent on the arena floor, but Shawn moved out of the way, and the challenger collided with the ring steps. As Mankind got up and charged again, Shawn executed a leg

MANKIND — "THAT WAS THE MOST FUN I'VE HAD IN VERY LONG TIME! HAVE A NICE DAY!"

SHAWN MICHAELS — "I GIVE THAT KOOK ALL THE CREDIT IN THE WORLD! TONIGHT HE TOOK ME AND THE KLIQ TO THE LIMIT!"

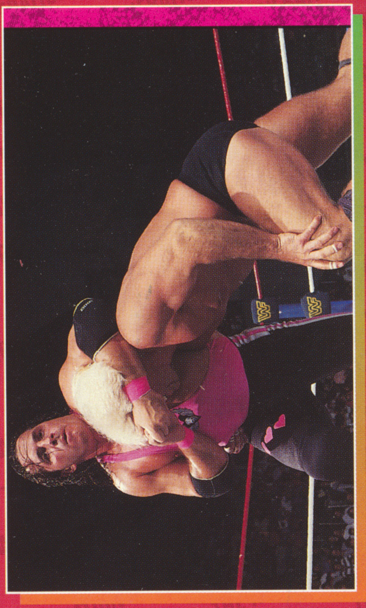
SUBSCRIBE NOW! And receive bodyslammin' Federation **TRADING CARDS** in every issue. These cards will only be available in subscriber copies. ***ACT NOW TO COLLECT THEM ALL!*** See page 24 for subscription cards.

BRET "HIT MAN" HART

1996

1996

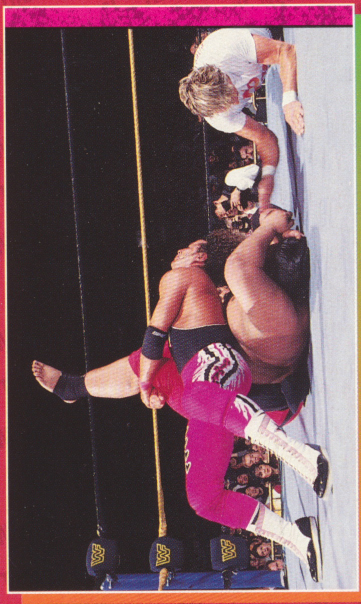
THE FIRST REIGN OF EXCELLENCE!



WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION

1996

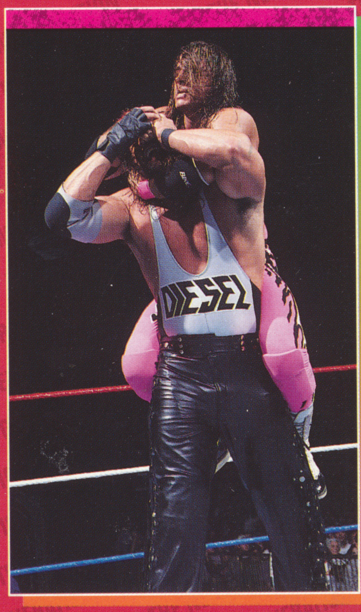
BRET RECLAIMS THE GOLD!



WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION

1996

THE HIT MAN TAKES AIM AT BIG DADDY!



WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION

1996

61

THE FIRST REIGN OF EXCELLENCE!

The date was October 12, 1992—Canadian Thanksgiving—and the crowd in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, was wild with celebration as their fellow countryman Bret Hart took the World Wrestling Federation Championship belt from Ric Flair with the celebrated Sharpshooter! This marked the first Federation Title reign for the Hit Man... one that would usher in the era of "The Excellence of Execution".

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION®

® Registered trademark of TitanSports, Inc. ™Trademark of TitanSports, Inc.
©1996 All Rights Reserved. PRINTED IN THE USA.

1996

62

BRET RECLAIMS THE GOLD!

In front of 20,000 screaming fans at New York's Madison Square Garden the Hit Man defeated Yokozuna at *Wrestlemania X* to gain his second World Wrestling Federation Title. It was just a year prior at *WrestleMania IX* that Bret had dropped the belt to the Banzai Master in a controversial defeat.

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION®

® Registered trademark of TitanSports, Inc. ™Trademark of TitanSports, Inc.
©1996 All Rights Reserved. PRINTED IN THE USA.

1996

63

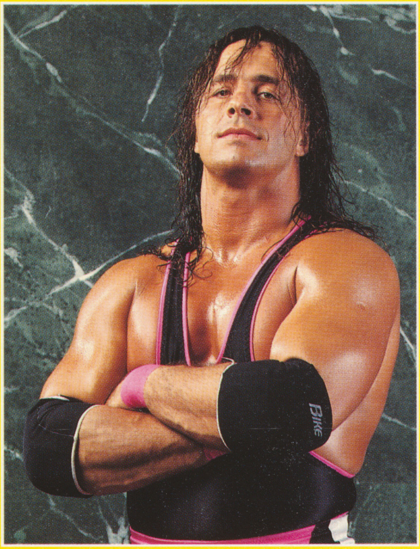
THE HIT MAN TAKES AIM AT BIG DADDY!

At the 1995 *Survivor Series*, the Federation Title reign of Big Daddy Cool Diesel came to a screeching halt when the Excellence of Execution brought the gold back to the Hart Family in time for Thanksgiving! After being Jackknifed by his opponent, Bret surprised everyone by cradling Big D as the referee slapped down for the three-count! In the blink of an eye, Bret was a three-time Federation champion!

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION®

® Registered trademark of TitanSports, Inc. ™Trademark of TitanSports, Inc.

BRET "HIT MAN" HART



Bret Hart –
The Excellence of Execution!

®
1996

Height:

6' 1"

Weight:

234 pounds

From:

Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Titles held:

Tag Team (2), Intercontinental (2) and Federation Championship (3)

Motto:

"The best there is, the best there was and the best there will ever be."

Finishing Move:

The Sharpshooter

Nickname:

Excellence of Execution

PPV Debut:

WRESTLEMANIA 2 — Bret was a participant in the Over-the-Top Battle Royal.

® Registered trademark of TitanSports, Inc. ™Trademark of TitanSports, Inc. ©1996 All Rights Reserved. PRINTED IN THE USA.

takedown from the rear that drove the contender's face into the steel stairway.

With Mankind standing on the apron and Shawn positioned in the ring, the champion tried suplexing his opponent into the center of the mat. Mankind resisted, trying a suplex of his own. Shawn was hoisted upward, but managed to twist his body and land on his feet on the ring apron. There, Mankind rushed at his opponent, but Shawn jumped out of the way and the challenger smashed into the ringpost. Mankind went after the titlist again in the ring and this time, Shawn threw him over the ropes. Before hitting the floor, Mankind's head was caught in the cables. As Michaels advanced toward him, Mankind reached up, jammed his fingers into Shawn's mouth and held him momentarily in the Mandible Claw.

Michaels shook free and Mankind fell to ringside. The champion followed and was caught again in the Mandible Claw. Shawn broke away this time by shoving Mankind into the guardrail. As Mankind rushed at Shawn with a swinging fist, Michaels held up a folding chair as a shield and the challenger's knuckles cracked against the metal.

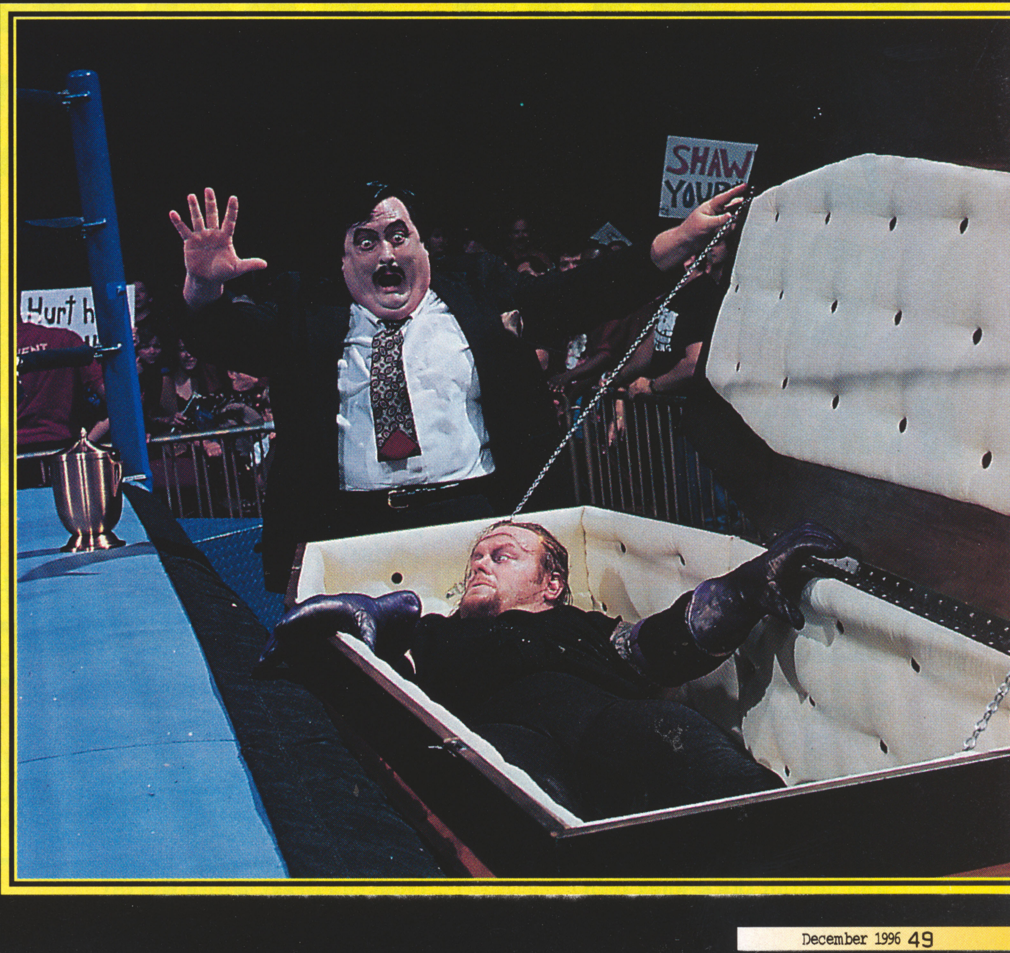
Showing no mercy, the titlist glided the chair into his opponent's knee and bashed it over his head. Then the champion pulled Mankind into the ring, bit the Mandible Claw hand, stomped on the fingers and yanked them apart. But when the Heartbreak Kid charged at his adversary, Mankind backflipped him to ringside. Mankind sprung off the apron, bringing down an elbow on the champion's neck, and then followed with a swinging neckbreaker on the concrete.

In the ring, Mankind hurt the champ with a double arm DDT and covered him for a two-count. Holding Shawn's trunks for leverage, Mankind got a second two-count after a piledriver. After another two near-falls failed to yield three-counts, a frustrated Mankind pulled at his hair and flung himself on the canvas. He left the ring, threw in two chairs, opened the coffin and rolled in Michaels. Aware of his predicament, the champion stood up in the box and fired away at his opponent. But when the Heartbreak Kid again went to the top rope, Mankind shook the strands. Michaels' crotch hit the buckle and Mankind climbed up behind him, suplexing him into the announcer's table. Both wrestlers lay amidst the splintered wood and glass. The referee hovered over them, wondering whether to stop the bout, but each gladiator managed to get up. Shawn made it back to the ring first, while Mankind went to the top rope, holding a chair. Michaels ran across the ring, launched himself off a chair already standing on the canvas and as Mankind swung the second chair, Michaels delivered some Sweet Chin Music. Mankind fell from the buckle and Shawn covered him. The referee slapped the mat: "One... two... "

From the back of the arena, Vader stampeded into the ring. Michaels fought him, while the referee called for the bell, disqualifying Mankind. Bearer crept up on the champion and clonked him with the urn. Before Vader could capitalize, Sid emerged from the locker room and pounded on the Mastodon.

Shawn and Mankind lay on the mat, but the challenger got up first and was finally able to administer a successful Mandible Claw. Shawn squirmed, then appeared to lose consciousness. Bearer opened the lid of the casket—only to jump back in disbelief when the Undertaker popped out, grabbed Mankind by the throat and hurled him over the ropes.

PAUL BEARER — "DAMN THAT UNDERTAKER! HE MUST BE DESTROYED, ONCE AND FOR ALL, OHHH YESSS!!!"



When you need it really bad,

Pick up the phone...

WWF

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION

SUPERSTAR LINE

1-900 737-4WWF

24 Hours a Day • $1.49 Per Minute • 7 Days a Week

In Canada 1-900-451-3332
$1.99 Per Minute

United Kingdom 0891-299-888
39p per minute, cheap rate
49p per minute, all other times

MUST BE 18 YEARS OF AGE OR HAVE PARENT'S PERMISSION BEFORE CALLING

8 GREAT OPTIONS WHEN YOU CALL!

1 World Wrestling Federation Trivia

Answer six consecutive Federation trivia questions correctly and win a prize!

2 Daily Superstar Interview

Ray Rougeau interviews a different Federation Superstar every day!

3 Federation Adventure Game

Take a World Wrestling Federation adventure and try to win a prize!

4 Crowin' With Cornette

The gospel according to the walking blue light special...or so he would want you to believe!

5 Federation Challenge Game

Take on a Federation Superstar. If you emerge victorious, you'll win a prize!

6 The Ross Report

Jim Ross has all the news and behind the scenes info on Federation happenings!

7 French/Canadian Report with Ray Rougeau

The latest Federation news from the Great White North!

8 Post Match Interviews

During every Federation pay-per-view event, hear comments from the winners and losers of the matches that take place!

OWEN HART & THE BRITISH BULLDOG

ARE THEY TOO FLAMMABLE FOR THEIR OWN FAME?

By Keith Elliot Greenberg

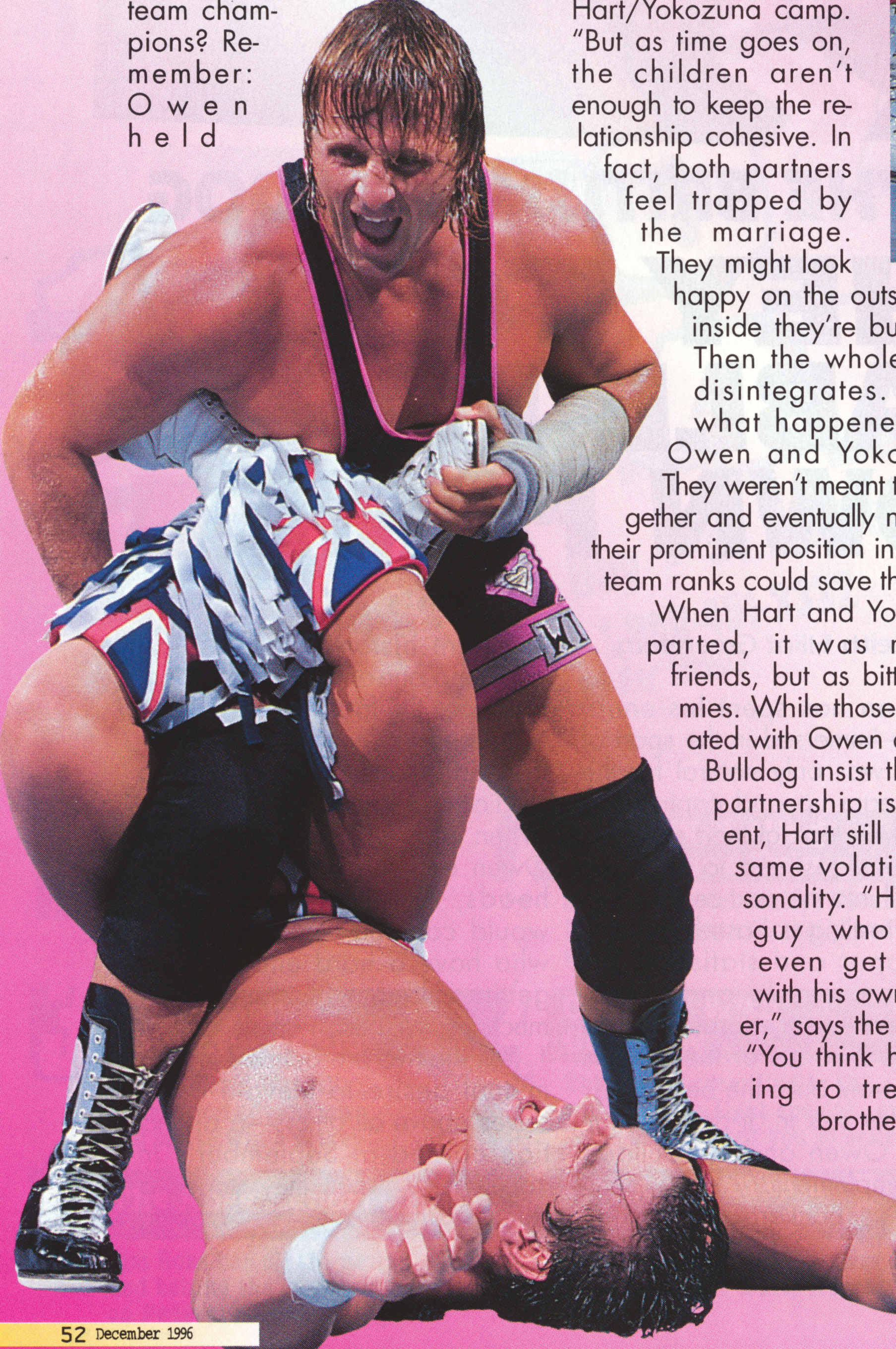
On paper, no two men are better equipped to be World Wrestling Federation Tag Team Champions. Davey Boy Smith, the British Bulldog, is a former Intercontinental Titlist who held the tag strap along with Dynamite Kid in the 1980s, developing many techniques that have become standard fare among today's grappling combos. Owen Hart is also a former World Wrestling Federation tag team champion, in addition to being one of the most versatile singles competitors in the history of the mat wars. The partners are brothers-in-law trained in Owen's father Stu's infamous "dungeon". Each man has spent his entire adult life immersed in the sport of kings. It was only natural for the two to team up and capture the gold. If you look at their statistics, they seem destined to hold the belts well into the next century.

But wrestling is based on more than paper and statistics. It's based on muscle and heart, blood and sweat, obsession and ego. The theories of the pundits are irrelevant once the bell sounds and reality sets in. It doesn't matter that Owen and the Bulldog have complementary styles, similar training backgrounds and triumphant histories in both tag team and one-on-one competition. Nor does the fact that the Bulldog is married to Owen's sister ensure that either man will display a modicum of loyalty to his partner. When all is said and done, both Owen and the Bulldog are hotheads, fatheads and—some would contend—outright jerks, who have a hard enough time getting along with themselves, much less with each other.

Yet, the two are bonded in their mutual desire to elevate themselves above all others—a distinction earned at September's *In Your House*, when they staged a stunning upset over the Smoking

Gunns. In town after town, the locker room aisles now part for Owen and the Bulldog, as they amble to their lockers, with the tag team belts draped over their shoulders. This is the way each man truly believes he deserves to be treated. To drop the straps and be relegated back to contender status is a terrifying prospect for the champs. For this reason alone, they may maintain a united front, forgetting whatever differences arise between them.

But how long will it take for those differences to resurface and divide the tag team champions? Remember: Owen held the crown not too long ago with Yokozuna. For months, Hart and the former sumo star attempted to think positively and ignore the widening cracks in their foundation—all for the sake of the belts.



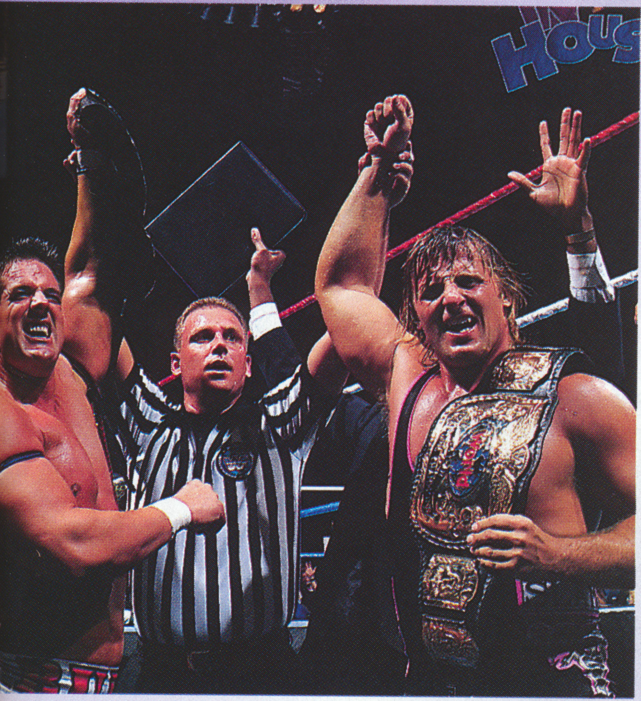
"I'd equate it with a married couple who have nothing in common, but they stay together because of the children," notes a close observer of the Hart/Yokozuna camp. "But as time goes on, the children aren't enough to keep the relationship cohesive. In fact, both partners feel trapped by the marriage. They might look happy on the outside but inside they're bubbling. Then the whole thing disintegrates. That's what happened with Owen and Yokozuna. They weren't meant to be together and eventually not even their prominent position in the tag team ranks could save them."

When Hart and Yokozuna parted, it was not as friends, but as bitter enemies. While those associated with Owen and the Bulldog insist that this partnership is different, Hart still has the same volatile personality. "Here's a guy who can't even get along with his own brother," says the source. "You think he's going to treat his brother-in-law any better? Bret Hart tried being partners with Owen, but Owen chose to turn on him. Why? Because Bret was more famous than his little brother, and Owen is a man ruled by jealousy."

The Bulldog offers Hart many reasons to be jealous. For one thing, Davey Boy Smith has had a more illustrious career. He won the World Wrestling Federation Intercontinental Title from none other than Bret Hart in front of a voracious hometown crowd at London's Wembly Stadium and ruled the tag team scene as a member of the British Bulldogs. It is natural to make comparisons between Smith's alliance with Dynamite Kid and his current affiliation with Owen. While many would argue that the current tag team champions are a superior duo—a team better equipped for the recklessness of the 1990s—Owen may see the situation through different eyes.

"Owen's like a boyfriend who can't get over his girlfriend's old flame," says the source. "She's put her past behind her and moved on with her life, but he can't stop wondering whether she still wants the other guy back. Don't let Owen's cockiness fool you. He's very conscious of the role Dynamite Kid played in Davey Boy's evolution as a wrestler. It's a role Owen can never fulfill, because the Bulldog's at a much more cultivated stage of his career. But Hart's jealousy of his partner's past could lead to some major problems."

Then, there's the Bulldog's overall attitude. He was once considered one of the noblest men in the squared circle. But somewhere along the line, he turned sour. Old friendships were disregarded, long-held values cast aside. The British Bulldog of 1996 is as different from the Davey Boy Smith of a decade ago as the Bob Backlund of this day and age is from the righteous gladiator who carried the torch for the World Wrestling Federation as its Heavyweight Champion in the late 1970s. By his own admission, the Bulldog is out for one man: himself. If Owen Hart can aid that effort, he'll remain in Davey Boy's good standing. But if Smith even suspects that his teammate is a liability, the two are likely to go to war.

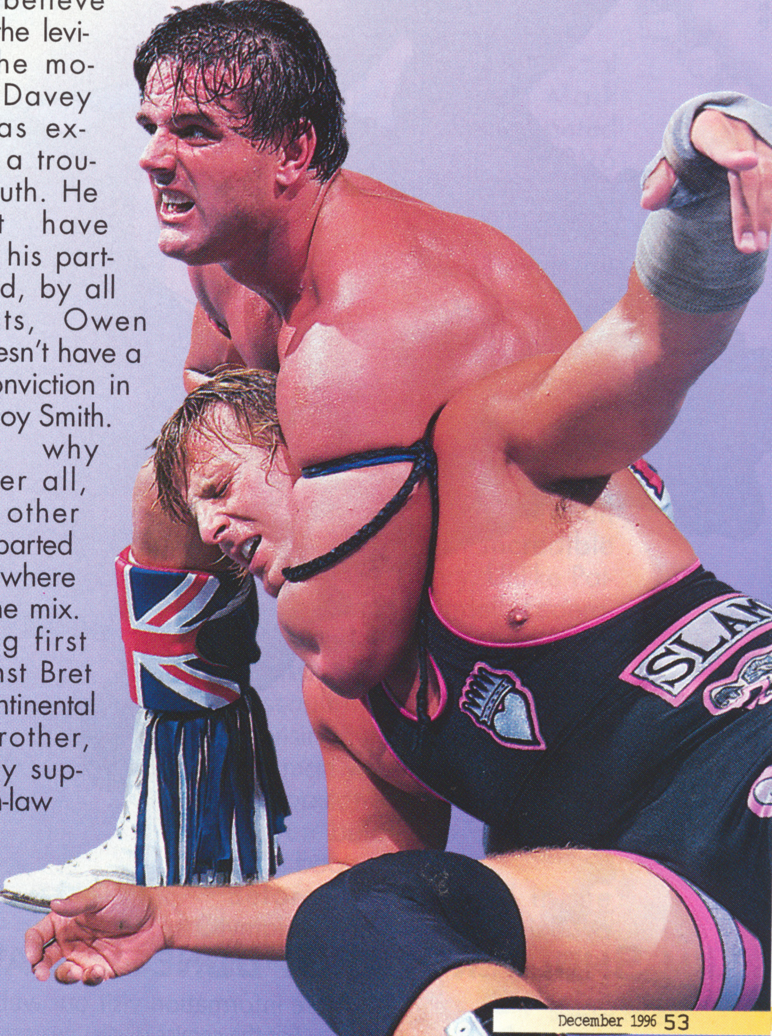


A story circulating around World Wrestling Federation locker rooms places the Bulldog at a celebration shortly after the *In Your House* Tag Team Championship victory. As the mood became more merry, Smith announced—rather loudly—that he trusted his co-titlist "as far as I can throw him". When he was asked why then did he choose this type of wrestler as a partner, the Bulldog pulled up his sleeves, revealing his massive biceps, and smirked, "You weren't listening to me. I said 'as far as I can throw him'. Do you see these arms? I can throw Owen Hart pretty far."

Some would say the remark was meaningless, stated playfully while Bulldog was riding the euphoria of snaring the belt. But others believe that in the levity of the moment, Davey Boy was exposing a troubling truth. He doesn't have faith in his partner. And, by all accounts, Owen Hart doesn't have a deep conviction in Davey Boy Smith.

And why should they? After all, among all the other virtues Stu Hart imparted to his brood, somewhere loyalty got lost in the mix. When the Bulldog first squared off against Bret Hart for the Intercontinental strap, another brother, Bruce Hart, openly supported his brother-in-law over his blood relative. Several years later, Bret's former tag team partner, Jim "The Anvil" Neidhart—who also happens to be married into the Hart family—viciously assaulted the "Hit Man" after a Pay-Per-View match. Owen's feud with Bret has been well-chronicled in the pages of this magazine and elsewhere. Although they may wear the same tag team belts and eat Christmas dinner at the same table, there is absolutely no guarantee that Owen Hart and the Bulldog won't betray one another.

Of course, all this speculation may prove meaningless. Owen and the Bulldog boast the knowledge, skill and desire to own the World Wrestling Federation tag team belts as long as they want them. But each man has been known to exhibit extreme character flaws. And when two people with their defects are dependent on each other to retain one of the most cherished prizes in the squared circle, the outlook is less than heartening.



BROADWAY COMICS

PRESENTS

Fatale™

IN

"INHERIT THE EARTH"

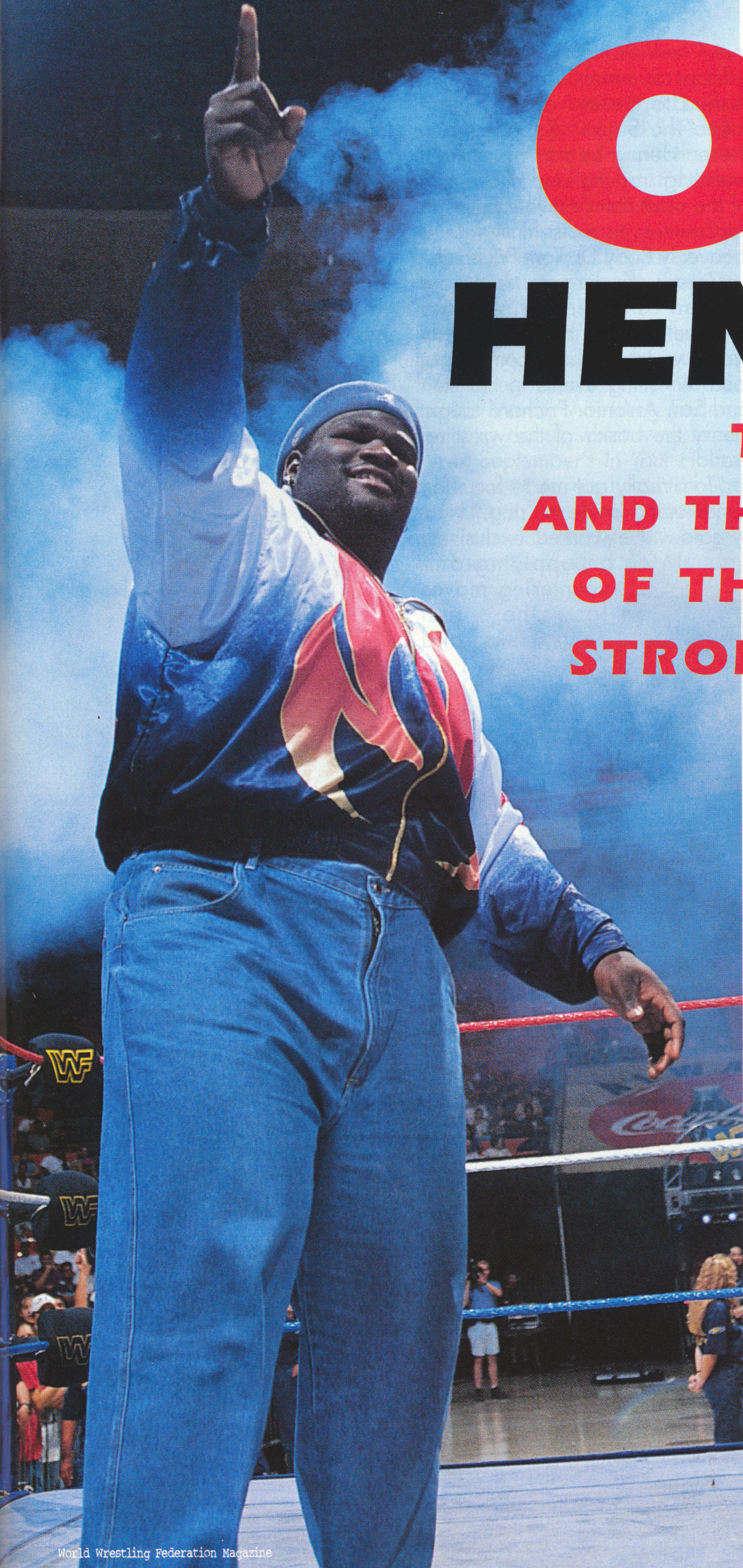
The comics
story of the
decade now in
Trade Paperback and
Limited Edition Deluxe Hardcover
224 pages

ON SALE NOVEMBER

JIM SHOOTER • J.G. JONES • DAVE COCKRUM • FRANK MCLAUGHLIN

For more information visit our web site. *http://comics.net/www/broadway/*
For the comics retailer nearest you, dial toll free 1-888-COMIC-BOOK

All © and ™ 1996 Broadway Comics. All Rights Reserved.



OH, HENRY!

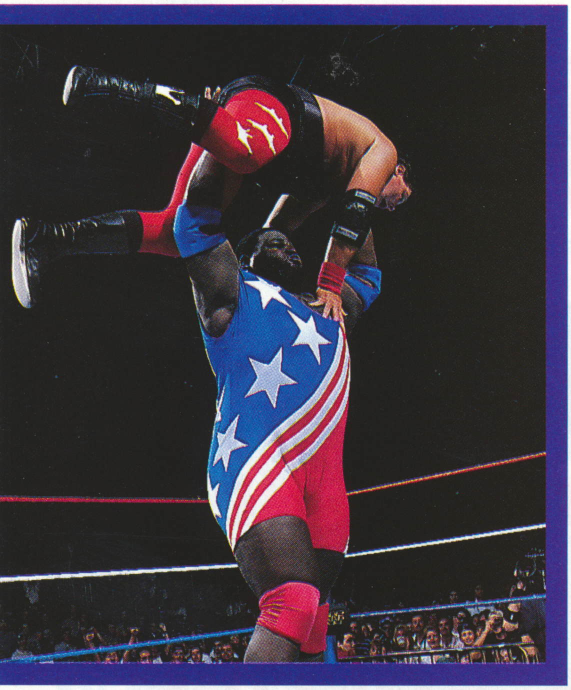
THE POWER AND THE PASSION OF THE WORLD'S STRONGEST MAN

BY LOU GIANFRIDDO

When it was made official last August that Mark Henry—who competed in Weightlifting at the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta, Georgia—had "signed a 10-year, multi-million dollar contract with the World Wrestling Federation" the wrestling world was hit with a 415-pound bombshell.

Not since Ken Patera, who was the first man in Olympic history to overhead press 500 pounds at the 1972 Olympic Games, has the World Wrestling Federation seen a man of such incredible power as Mark Henry. Unlike Patera, who shamed himself, Federation fans and the country when he was arrested and later imprisoned for assaulting police officers in Wisconsin in the mid-1980s, Henry is a man who has set an example of upstanding athletic decorum even before he decided to lace his boots.

Before he competed in the Olympics, Mark Henry gained a reputation as one of the strongest



steroid-free powerlifters in American history. In fact, at a national powerlifting event last year, Henry set a world record in the dead lift when he pulled a walloping 903 pounds in the super-heavyweight division. It is a drug-free record that has yet to be challenged.

But don't get the idea that Henry is muscle-bound. Quite the opposite. Henry is remarkably agile for one who is so mammoth.

During an NBA slam-dunk contest—which was featured on HBO's *Real Sports*—Henry palmed a basketball, ran at full-speed up the center lane and smashed the ball through the hoop in the same manner as Shaquille O'Neal or Magic Johnson.

Now that strength and agility has been unleashed on the World Wrestling Federation. Fans got an initial look at Henry this past August at *SummerSlam*, when he rushed to the aid of an injured Jake "The Snake" Roberts. From there, Henry began his formal wrestling training and chose one of the most competitive athletes in the business to assist him—former Heavenly Body Dr. Tom Prichard.

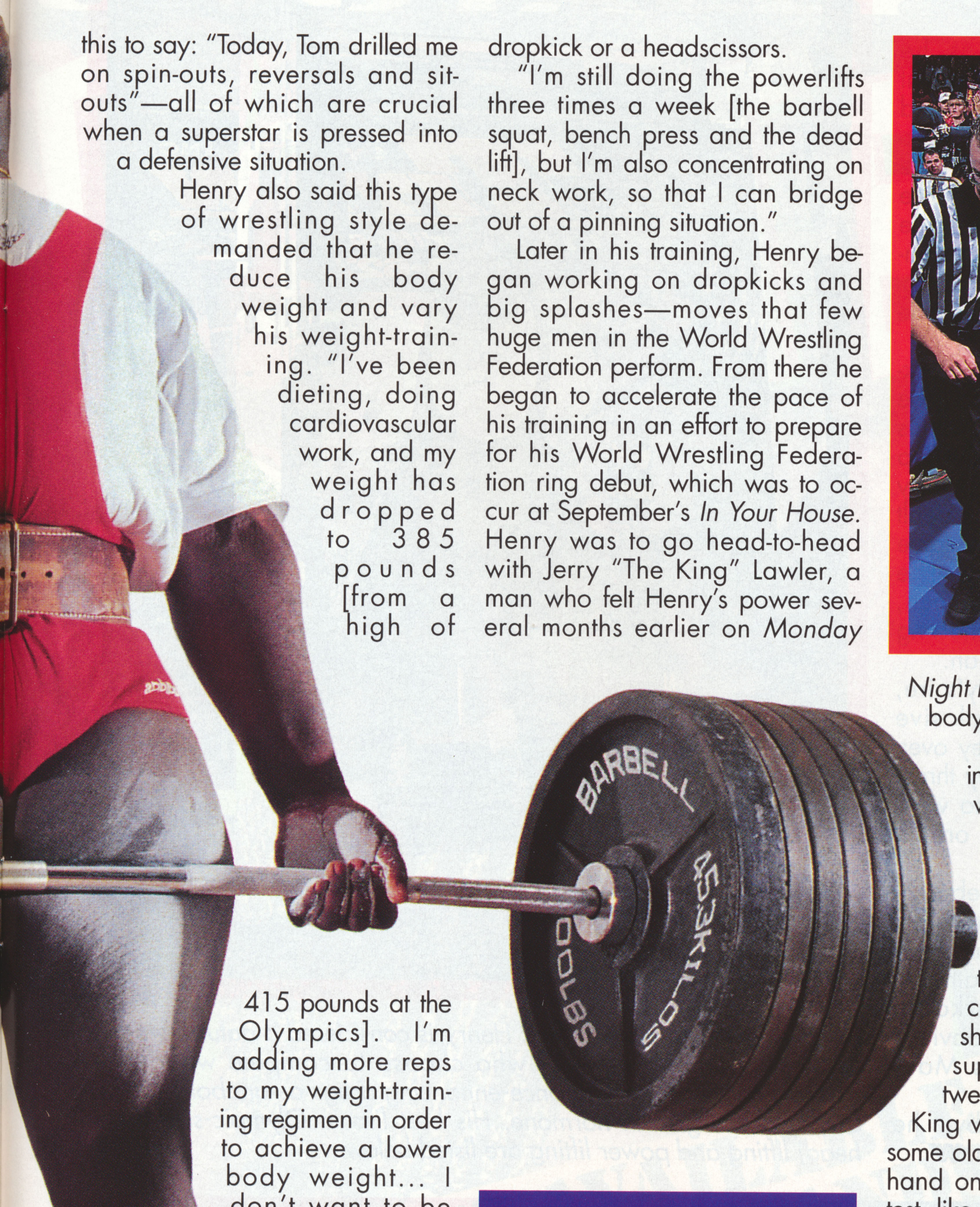
Henry first got to know Prichard as a teenager. A native of Slibell, Texas, Henry regularly would watch Prichard compete at local wrestling events in Houston and San Antonio. Prichard taught Henry the basics of the wrestling world.

"Tom really got me to focus on conditioning inside the ring," Henry said. "We worked exclusively on applying and countering moves for the first few weeks, and that's when I understood how demanding wrestling is."

During sparring sessions with Prichard and other athletes, Henry said he received valuable criticism from two of the most well-known superstars of all time. At one session, Henry recalls, World Wrestling Federation head and Hall-of-Famer Gorilla Monsoon ambled to ringside and told Henry "to lean into certain moves" in order to get the most from his size. Monsoon, who was one of the first 450-plus-pound competitors to wrestle in the Federation, was speaking from years of experience. Like Henry, he was also an Olympian, in Greco-Roman and free-style wrestling.

Another bit of advice came from the lips of none other than J.J.Dillon, a man considered to be a master strategist during his wrestling career in the 1960s and 1970s. He told Henry to concentrate on psychological tactics whenever possible to thwart his opponents.

Henry listened to the veterans, and also continued to listen to Prichard. During a phone call to the massive superstar, Henry had

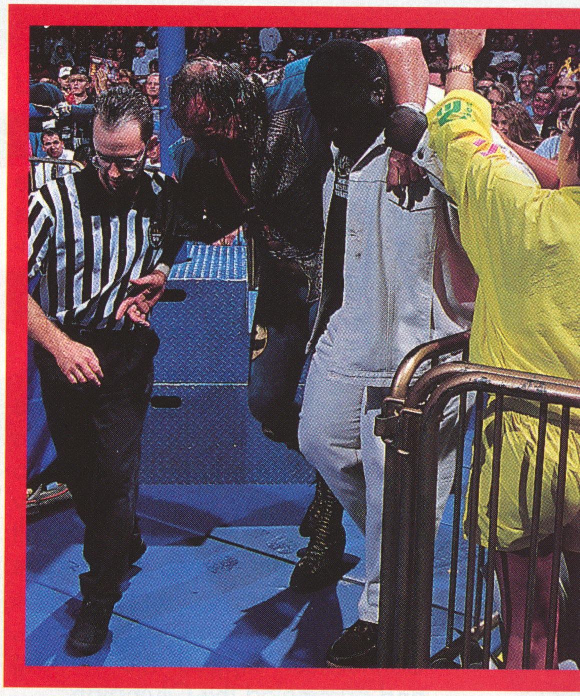


this to say: "Today, Tom drilled me on spin-outs, reversals and sit-outs"—all of which are crucial when a superstar is pressed into a defensive situation.

Henry also said this type of wrestling style demanded that he reduce his body weight and vary his weight-training. "I've been dieting, doing cardiovascular work, and my weight has dropped to 385 pounds [from a high of 415 pounds at the Olympics]. I'm adding more reps to my weight-training regimen in order to achieve a lower body weight... I don't want to be known [in the Federation] as strictly a strongman. I'd like to achieve the same level of greatness as [former star] Bam Bam Bigelow and be able to execute back-flips from the top turnbuckle or knock the hell out of someone with a dropkick or a headscissors.

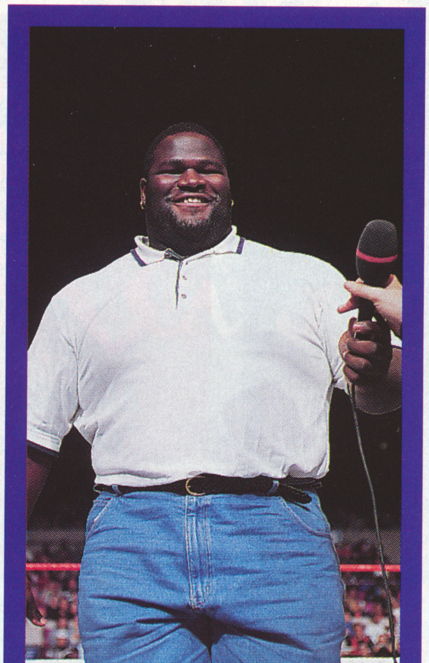
"I'm still doing the powerlifts three times a week [the barbell squat, bench press and the dead lift], but I'm also concentrating on neck work, so that I can bridge out of a pinning situation."

Later in his training, Henry began working on dropkicks and big splashes—moves that few huge men in the World Wrestling Federation perform. From there he began to accelerate the pace of his training in an effort to prepare for his World Wrestling Federation ring debut, which was to occur at September's *In Your House*. Henry was to go head-to-head with Jerry "The King" Lawler, a man who felt Henry's power several months earlier on *Monday Night Raw* when the huge Texan body-slammed the King.



Now, with his extensive training behind him, Mark Henry was ready to put it all to work at *In Your House*.

Going into the match, Henry realized that Lawler—although not the biggest man in the Federation—is widely considered one of the shrewdest and most ruthless superstars ever to step between the ropes. In fact, the King wasted no time in utilizing some old tactics to gain the upper hand on Henry early in the contest, like raking the big man's eyes and scoring with other dirty tactics.



Lawler even resorted to using a foreign object in an effort to secure a victory. Unfortunately for his royal highness... it didn't work. Henry became enraged and lashed at the "King" with abandon, nearly collapsing Lawler's torso with a kneelift. A thundering chop had a similar effect, impacting with such force that many ringside observers thought Lawler's chest would unhinge from his shoulders. Sensing that Lawler was reeling, Henry focused on the "King's" demise.

He hoisted Lawler overhead—

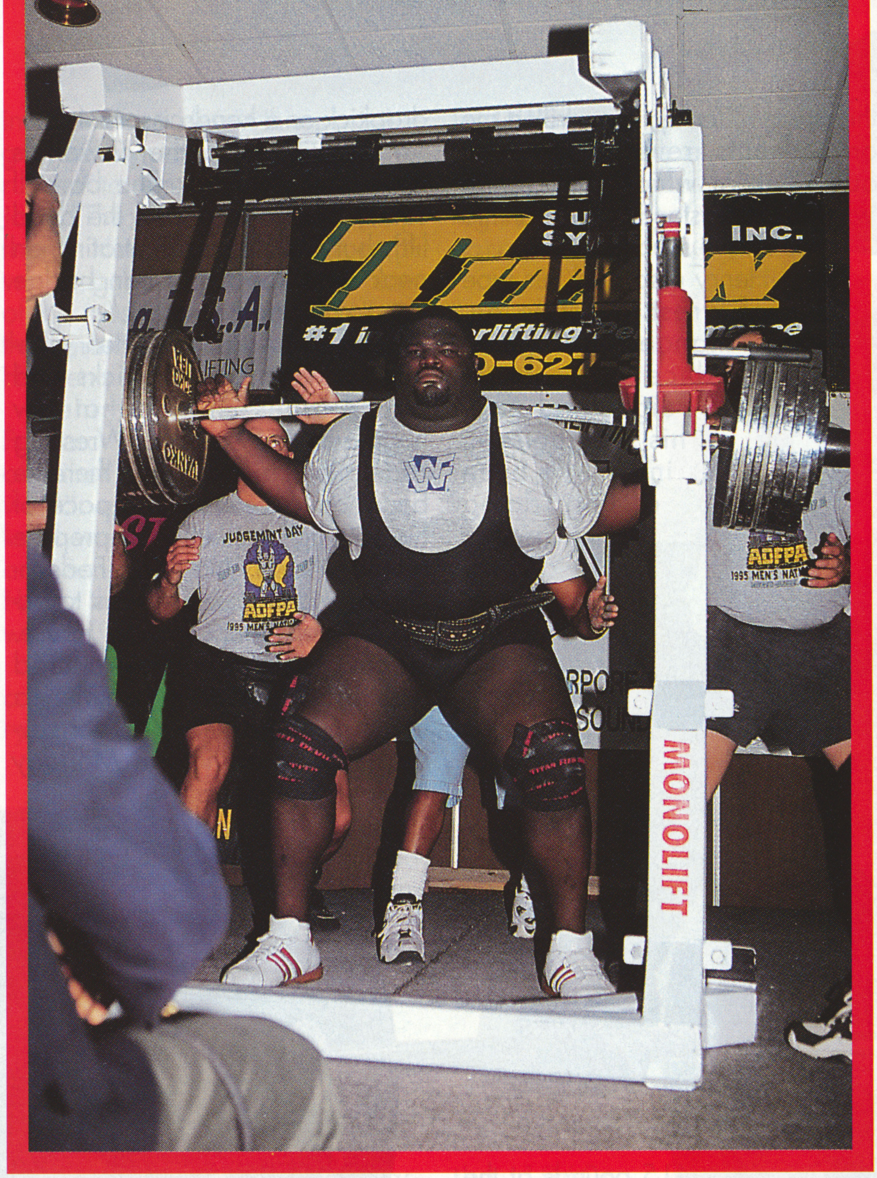
in the same manner as he snatched inanimate tonnage at the 1996 Olympic Games—and ensnared him in a standing backbreaker. Beaten and barely able to breathe, Lawler had no choice but to submit. Henry had made his mark in the Federation and immediately following his debut victory, other wrestlers from the locker room attempted to spoil it.

Leif Cassidy of the New Rockers was the first scoundrel on the scene. He jumped Henry, but was promptly deposited over the top ropes. Cassidy's partner Marty Jannetty followed and was dealt the same punishment. Then came Hunter Hearst-Helmsley. The sneaky snob from Greenwich, Connecticut, slipped into the ring and pummeled the Olympian.

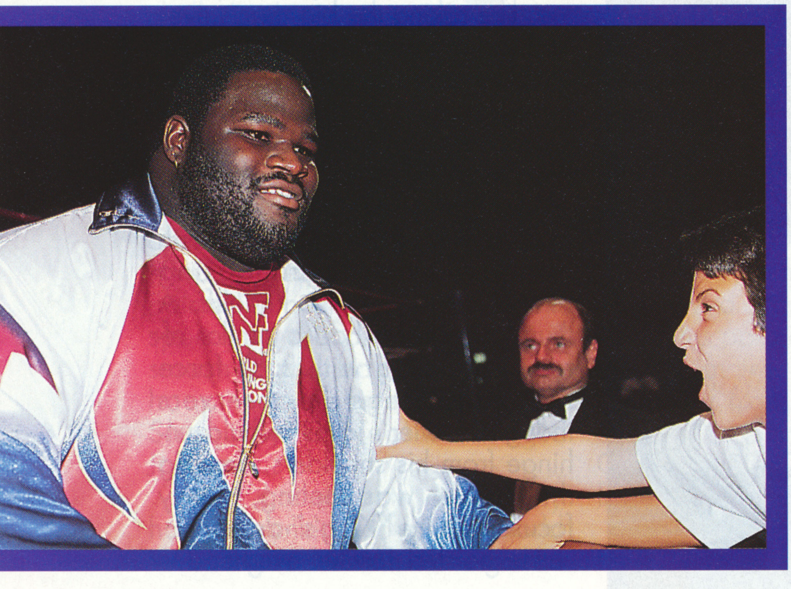
This only raised Henry's ire, and with a burst of explosive power he pressed Helmsley overhead and unceremoniously threw him onto the Rockers—who were still licking their wounds on the arena floor.

It was an impressive debut. In one evening, Henry battered four of the Federation's most undesirable and relentless athletes and did so with remarkable ease. This leads to the obvious question: Where does Mark Henry go from here?

"Right to the top, baby," he announced after the match.



In the weightlifting world, Mark Henry is considered a natural wonder, especially among athletes who choose to compete without the assistance of such performance-enhancing drugs as anabolic steroids and synthetic growth hormone. His best lifts in Olympic-style (overhead) lifting and power lifting are listed below.



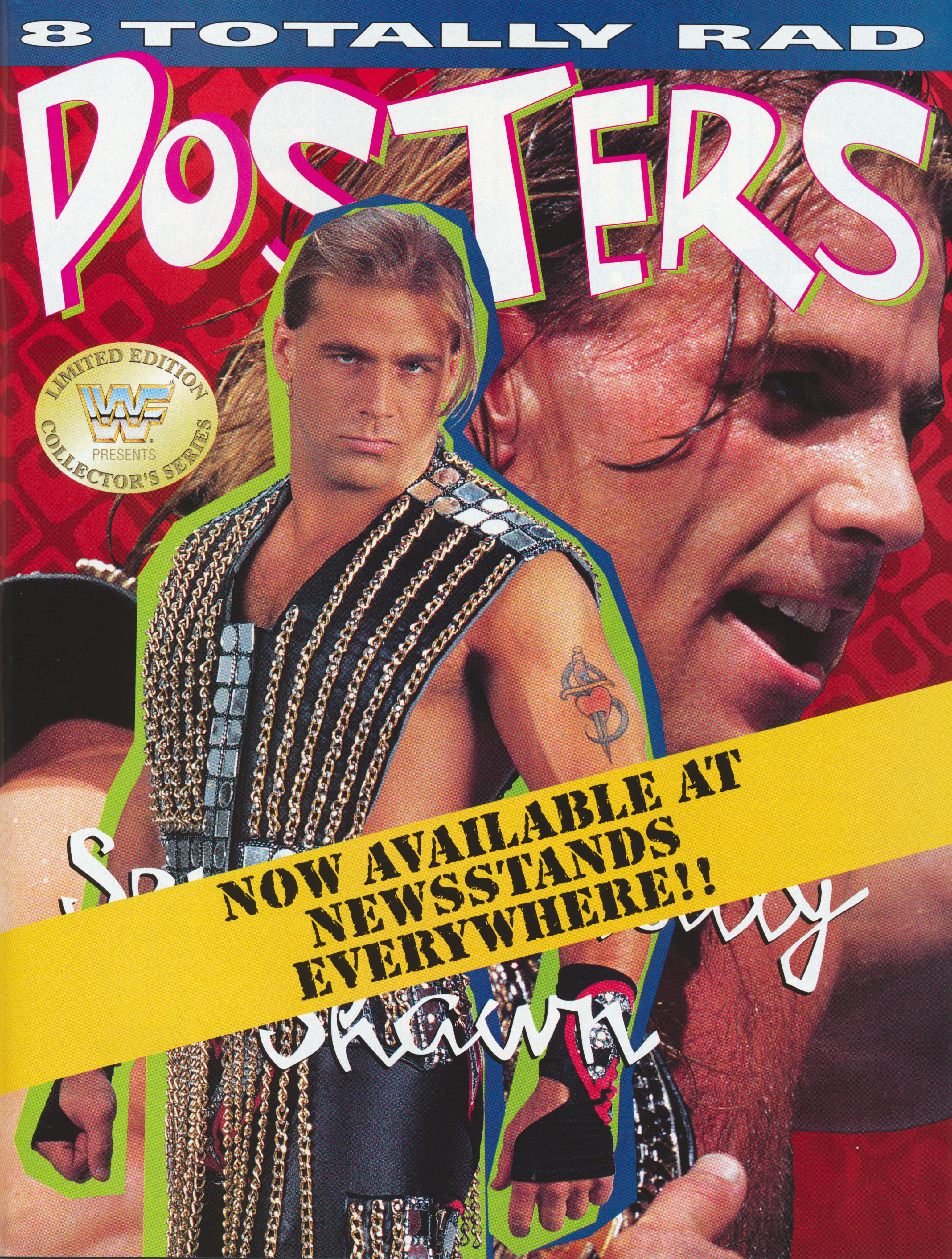
OLYMPIC LIFTING

CLEAN AND JERK: 501 pounds
(at the 1996 Olympics)
THE SNATCH: 402 pounds
(at the Olympics)

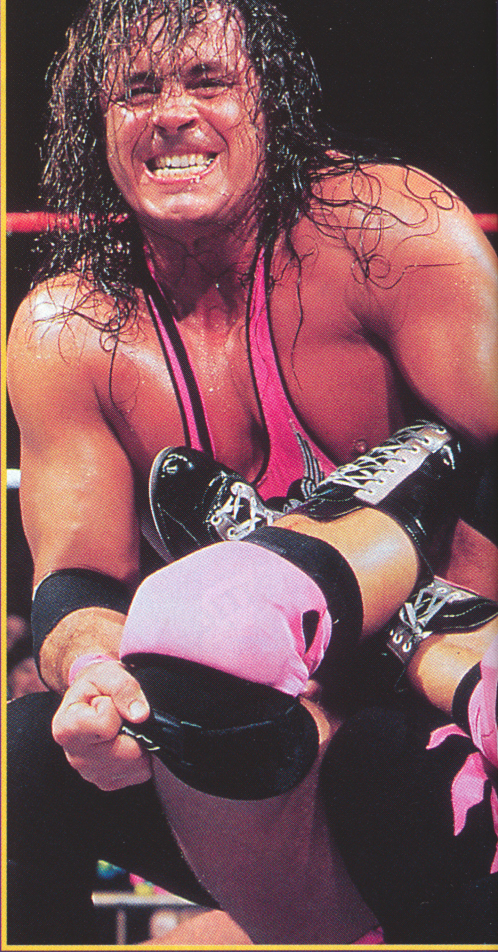
POWER LIFTING

(from a national drug-free event)

BARBELL SQUAT: 957 pounds
BENCH PRESS: 501 pounds
DEAD LIFT: 903 pounds
(drug-free world record)


8 TOTALLY RAD
POSTERS
LIMITED EDITION
WWF
PRESENTS
COLLECTOR'S SERIES
Shawn
NOW AVAILABLE AT
NEWSSTANDS
EVERYWHERE!!

SURVIVOR SERIES
PREVIEW

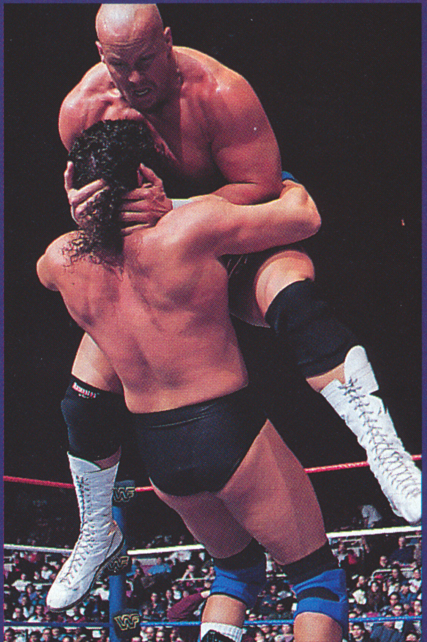


BRET "HIT MAN" HART
VS.
STONE COLD STEVE AUSTIN

By Keith Elliot Greenberg

When Bret "Hit Man" Hart lost his third World Wrestling Federation Heavyweight Championship to Shawn Michaels at *WrestleMania XII*, fans were left wondering about the future of the gifted athlete known as the "Excellence of Execution". Rumors swirled that the Hit Man had soured on the mat game and was planning to hang up his trunks at the height of his career. Other sources claimed that Bret was in seclusion, enhancing a nearly flawless repertoire and committed to returning to the mat game a more proficient—and ruthless—competitor.

In the meantime, another man stepped into the role Hart had played in the World Wrestling Federation—that of a masterful athlete as adept at applying a leg grapevine as he was at ramming an adversary's head into the steps leading to the ring. Other newcomers had been compared to Hit Man in the past, but none dared to openly equate themselves with the future Hall of Famer. Stone Cold Steve Austin was different. When he won the arduous *King of the Ring* tournament in June, he boasted that he was "the best there is, the best there was and the best there ever will be"—the very slogan used by Bret Hart.

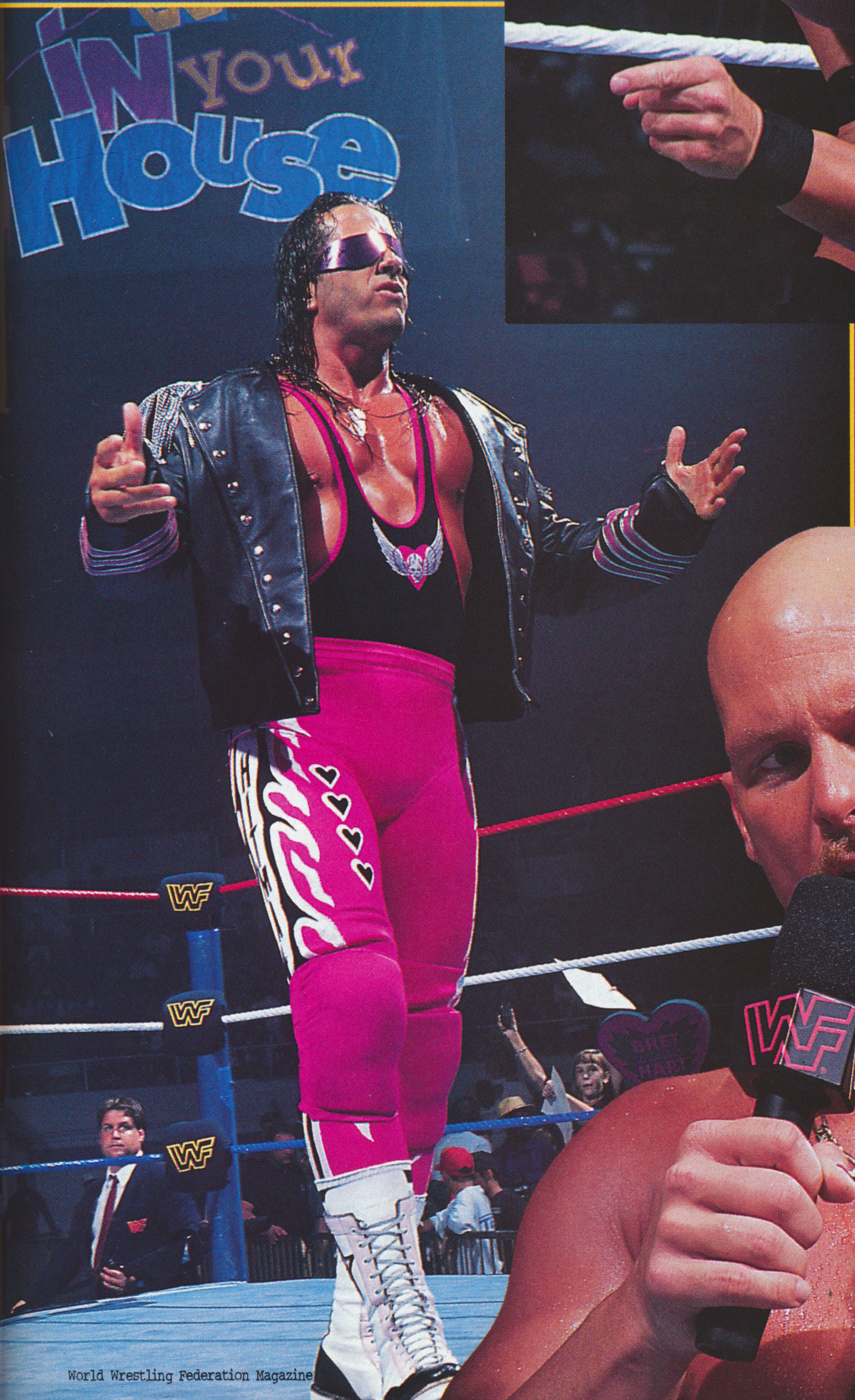


By the fall, Hart's future designs became clear, when he agreed to return to the ring at the *Survivor Series*. The Hit Man had one special request: he wanted to battle the gladiator who dared to liken himself to the "Excellence of Execution".

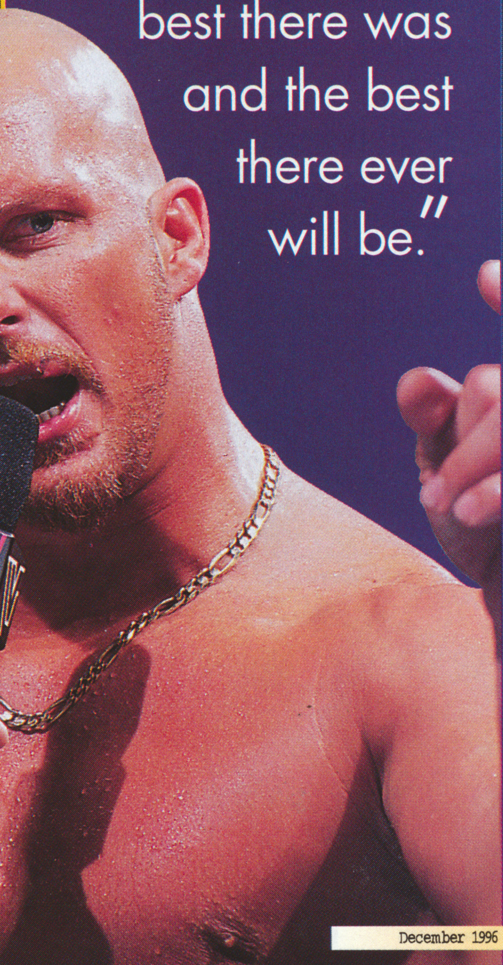
The match-up has sparked a lively debate among the wrestling fraternity. Is Hit Man the wrestler he was when he held the World Wrestling Federation title? And even if he is, should he be locking up with a wrestler as dangerous as Stone Cold Steve so quickly?

Austin insists that his opponent

should have remained cloistered at home. The World Wrestling Federation belongs to Stone Cold Steve, the cocky upstart maintains, and Hit Man will soon be in permanent retirement. Hart counters that his celebrated saga is still being written—and Austin's name will headline the latest chapter about a menace being vanquished by the legend.

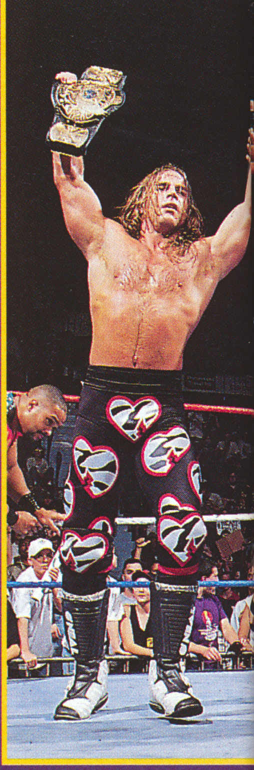


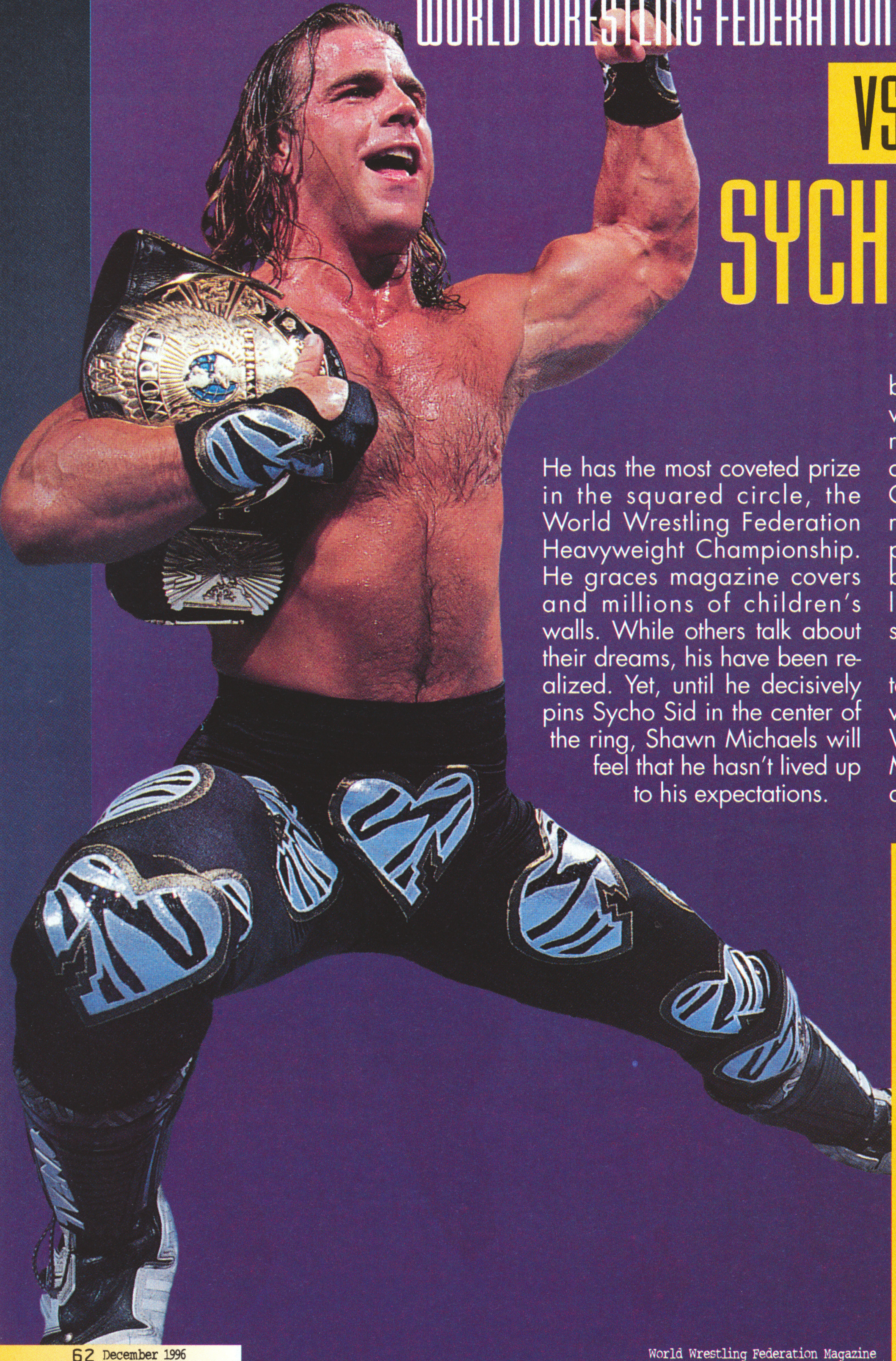
> "The best there is, the best there was and the best there ever will be."



WWF SURVIVOR SERIES
PREVIEW

SHAWN MICHAELS
WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION CHAMPION
VS.
SYCHO SID

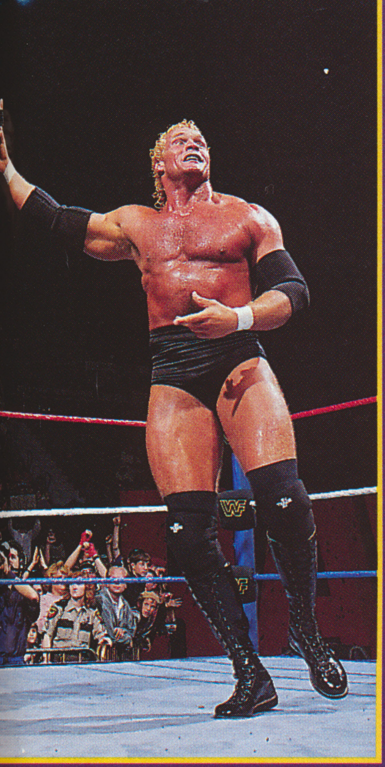


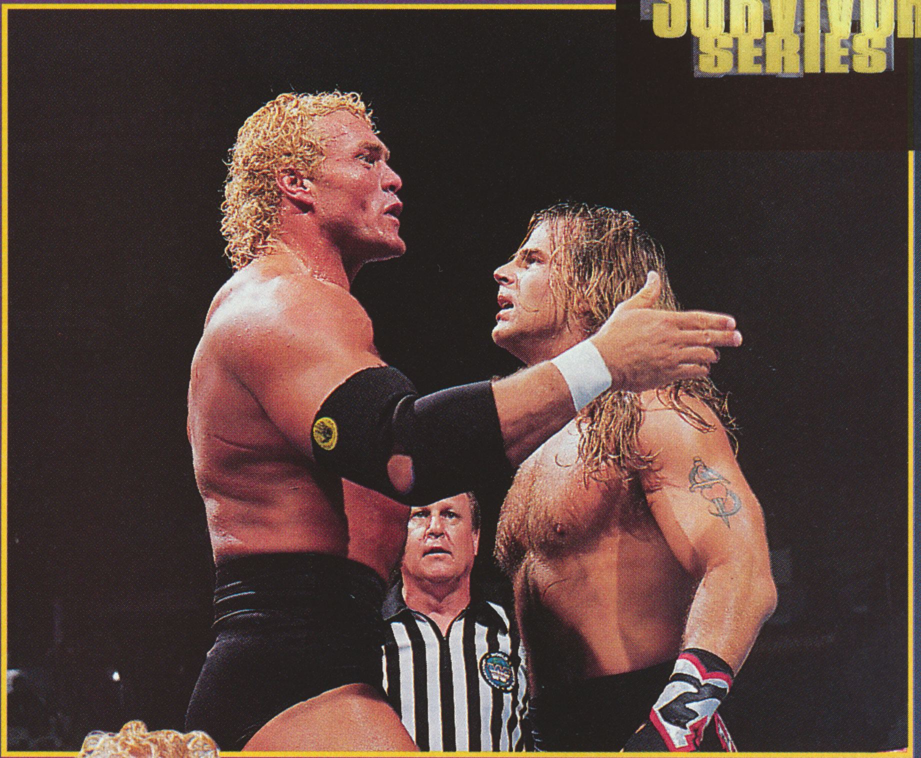


He has the most coveted prize in the squared circle, the World Wrestling Federation Heavyweight Championship. He graces magazine covers and millions of children's walls. While others talk about their dreams, his have been realized. Yet, until he decisively pins Sycho Sid in the center of the ring, Shawn Michaels will feel that he hasn't lived up to his expectations.

The unpredictable Sid has been Shawn's ally of late, but it wasn't always that way. Fans still remember—before Michaels became World Wrestling Federation Champion—how the brawny marauder from Arkansas was employed as the Heartbreak Kid's bodyguard. Sid quickly tired of living in Shawn's shadow and savagely attacked him.

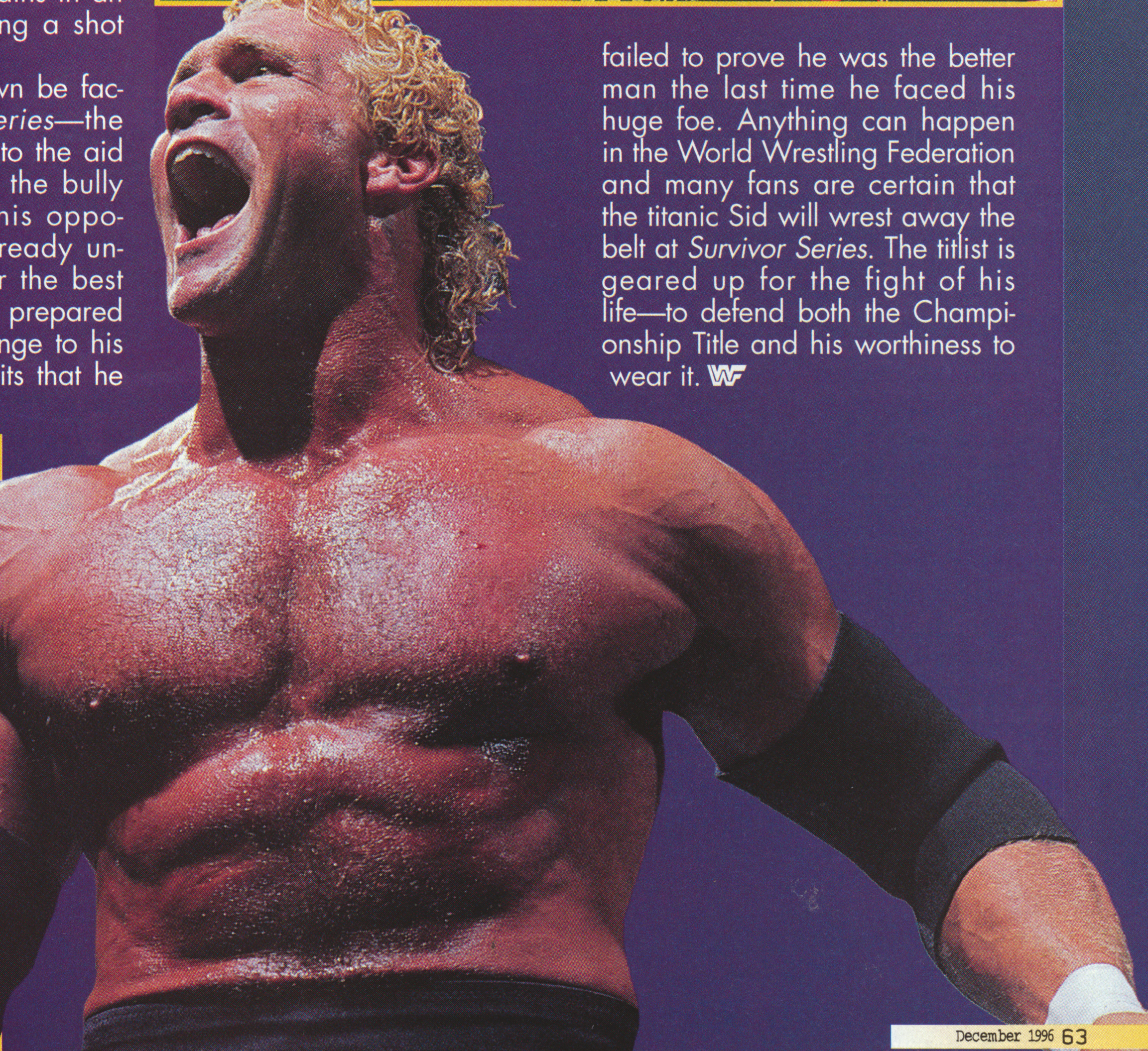
For a while, the two were mortal enemies. Then Sid mysteriously vanished from the sport of kings. When he returned, it was to assist Michaels in his feud against manager Jim Cornette's entire camp.





The most vicious member of that unit, Vader, had been the greatest menace to Shawn's title, until Sid conquered the Mastodon from the Rocky Mountains in an October match—earning a shot at the gold.

Which Sid will Shawn be facing at the *Survivor Series*—the gentleman who comes to the aid of friends in need, or the bully who bulldozes over his opponents when they're already unconscious? Even under the best conditions, is Michaels prepared for this daunting challenge to his belt? Even Shawn admits that he failed to prove he was the better man the last time he faced his huge foe. Anything can happen in the World Wrestling Federation and many fans are certain that the titanic Sid will wrest away the belt at *Survivor Series*. The titlist is geared up for the fight of his life—to defend both the Championship Title and his worthiness to wear it. WF



WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION®

PRO SHOP™

The Shawn Michaels Collection

A. Shawn Michaels™ Jewel Collection: Earings (clip-ons) and Pendant. Pewter. Set
01010 **$19.90**

B. Shawn Michaels™ Cap
It screams his name and bleeds HBK right onto the bill. 100% cotton. Embroidered.
01009 **$24.90**

B. Shawn Michaels™ Boxers
Real fans wear boxers! All over print. 100% cotton. Made in USA.
S M L XL XXL
01009 **$22.90**

D. Shawn Michaels™ Watch
Shawn's face will light up your wrist. Gift boxed. Limited warranty.
01006 **$29.90**

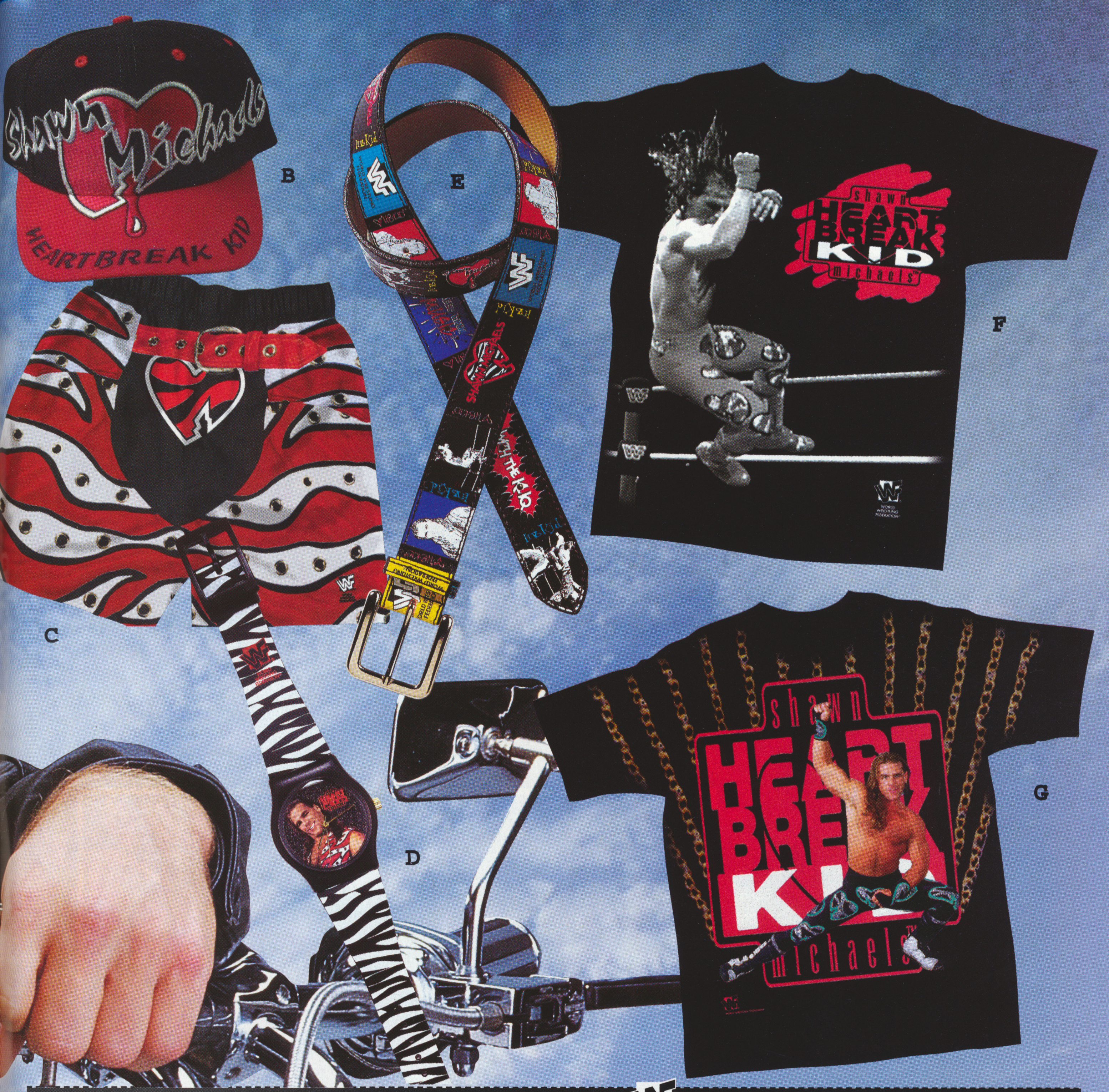
E. Shawn Michaels™ Belt
Wrap Shawn around your waist. Leather upper. Made in canada.
Small 28 - 30, Med 32-34, Large 36-38 and XL 40-42
01020 **$29.90**

F. Look who's droppin' in...
Feel the action of one of the greatest. 100% cotton. Made in USA. L XL XXL
01021 **$21.90**

G. Shawn Michaels™ HBK Tee
Shawn looks great in his full pose. 100% cotton. Made in USA. L XL XXL
01022 **$21.90**

WANT A FREE CATALOG????
THERE ARE A MILLION WAYS TO GET ONE...*WELL...ACTUALLY ONLY 3:*
AOL:
KEYWORD: SUPERSTARS@AOL.COM
THE WEB:
HTTP://WWW.WWFPROSHOP.COM
OR WRITE FOR ONE:
WWF PROSHOP, P.O. BOX 744, MT. MORRIS, IL 61054

©1996 TitanSports, Inc. All rights reserved.


Shawn Michaels
HEARTBREAK KID
B
E
shawn
HEART BREAK KID
michaels
F
C
D
shawn
HEART BREAK KID
michaels
G

CALL TO ORDER 1•815•734•1156 (7:30–10:30 CST)

Send to: WWF® Pro Shop, P. O. Box 744, Mt. Morris, IL 61054

Name

Address

City

State, Zip /

METHOD OF PAYMENT ☐ Check/Money Order ☐ MC ☐ VISA

Account Number/Expiration Date /

Cardholder's Signature

Don't forget—for every $35 you spend, you get $2 in Slambucks!! Use these "Bucks" for discounts on more great stuff from the World Wrestling Federation ProShop!!!

Item#	Size	Qty.	Total

Shipping & Handling

Order Totals	**USA**	**Canada**
up to $20	$5	$8
$21–$50	$7	$9
$51–$75	$9	$11
$76–$100	$11	$13

Shipping & Handling (see chart at left)

New York residents add 8.25% sales tax

TOTAL

DO NOT SEND CASH. Please allow 4-6 weeks delivery. Canadian orders must be Visa/MasteCard in U.S. Dollars or check and

THE INFORMER

BARRED FROM THE BACK

To put it mildly, JIM ROSS has been poison behind the scenes at the World Wrestling Federation. Informants have informed me, the Informer, that ROSS is burying Titan Sports' bossman VINCE McMAHON to everybody and anybody who will listen. So, the question is: Is anybody, IN FACT, listening? The answer: Positively YES! One source has even informed me that a band of longtime Federation fan favorites may be planning to change their ways, and join the ROSS crusade to bring the "Big Chief" down!... Here's something to note: I recently asked World Wrestling Federation Champion SHAWN MICHAELS, "If you had to choose one Federation superstar—past or present—with whom to stand side-by-side in combat, who would you choose?" The UNBELIEVABLE answer—MANKIND! "That's right," said the HEARTBREAK KID. "The cat may be kooky, but he is one helluva competitor. BELIEVE YOU ME, I have the battle scars to prove it!..." AND, speaking of MANKIND, don't be surprised to see yet MORE members join his freakish family!... A former World Wrestling Federation talent has been negotiating with the powers-that-be at Titan Tower to see if a deal can be struck to bring him back in front of the camera... CLARENCE MASON is far from finished! Remember when I reported to you last month that MASON had plans to piece together a FIRM of Federation superstars? Well... CRUSH, BRITISH BULLDOG and OWEN HART were just the beginning! Look for the slithering attorney to cop another major "coup" before snow hits the ground!... Will AHMED JOHNSON come back the same AHMED JOHNSON we all used to know and love? Maybe... MAYBE NOT!!! Remember when CASSIUS CLAY became MUHAMMAD ALI and RON SIMMONS turned into FAAROOQ, for reasons of religion?

Well, a close source of mine—who has been correct on more occasions than one—recently reported to me that he believes that while AHMED was out of action, FAAROOQ may have befriended him and convinced the Pearl River Powerhouse that he beat the tar out of him for his own good! This source states that FAAROOQ may have brainwashed AHMED into believing he was nothing more than a slave to his fans! Will AHMED indeed return a changed man? I've seen stranger things happen in the World Wrestling Federation!!!... The STALKER is no doubt stalking GOLDUST, but is MARLENA stalking the STALKER? Hmmm... Could the cat-fight that took place between SABLE and SUNNY on a recent *MONDAY NIGHT RAW* be a sign of things to come? A source informed me, the Informer, that, AS WE SPEAK, Federation officials may be trying to talk the two starlets into meeting at a Pay-Per-View!... Rumor has it that BRET "HIT MAN" HART may be a featured "voice" in an upcoming episode of *The Simpsons*... After a "brief" retirement, World Wrestling Federation Hall of Famer-to-be PAT PATTERSON is once again working actively behind the scenes... Federation superstar BARRY HOROWITZ soaked up some rays in South Africa!... Until next time... this has been the Informer...

How to spot a World Wrestling Federation Travel Club member:

Peace of mind knowing
he has **FIRST PRIORITY**
when he buys WF Main
Event Travel Packages

He's rubbed shoulders
with Federation Superstars.

Always the
satisfied customer

WF
Membership
CARD
WORLD WRESTLING
TRAVEL CLUB
WF
FEDERATION
0446783100
John Q. Public
9/96
NEWS

Official World Wrestling
Federation Travel Club
quarterly newsletter

Saved up to 50%
with discounted air,
resort and rental fees.

Priority seating
at Main Events

Plus...

- Calender of World Wrestling Federation live events 3 months out
- Special Coupon Book
- Access to Special Federation Superstar events such as the Wrestle Vessel
- Superstar autograph sessions, dinners, parties and much more

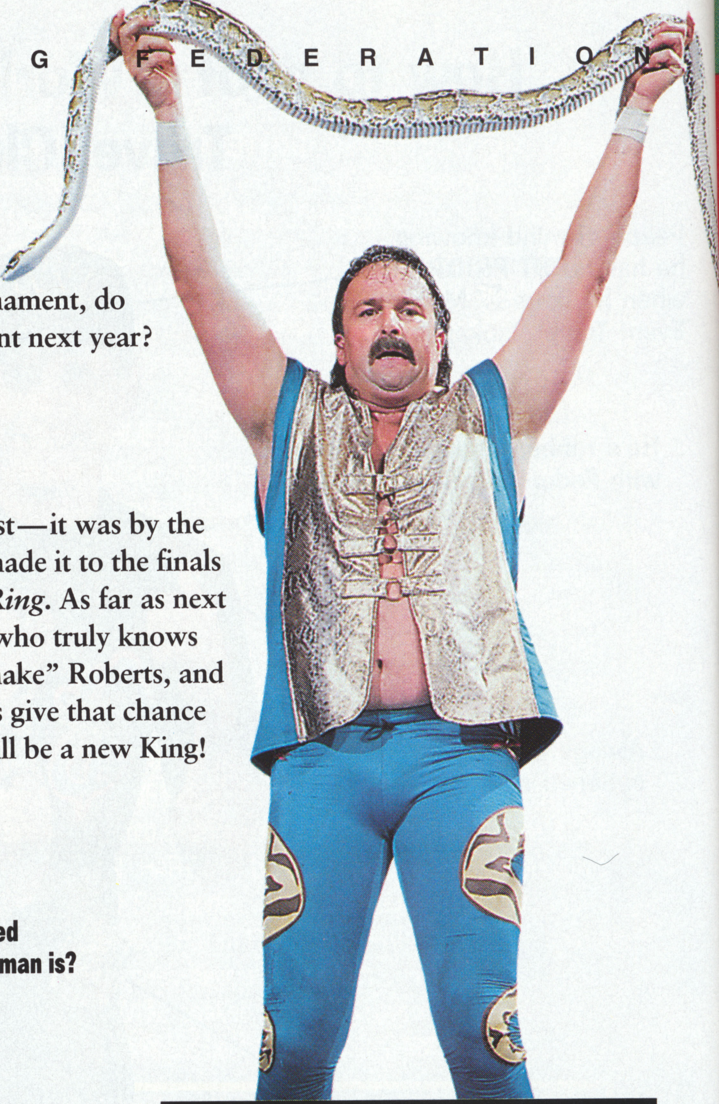
WORLD WRESTLING
TRAVEL CLUB™
WF
FEDERATION

Join The Club Now!

203-359-5440

One Card. One Club. One Call.

PIN 'em DOWN



Dear Jake "The Snake" Roberts,
Seeing as how you made it so far in the past *King of the Ring* tournament, do you plan on trying to win the event next year?

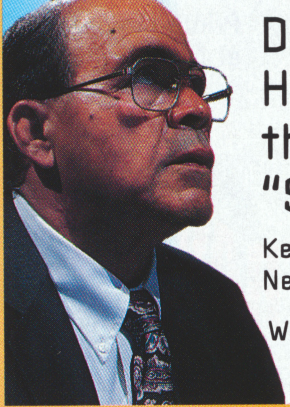
John Hoiden
Buffalo, NY

Well, John, let me just say this first—it was by the grace of God that Jake Roberts made it to the finals this past June at the *King of the Ring*. As far as next year goes, there is only one man who truly knows what is planned for Jake "The Snake" Roberts, and he is the Almighty. But if He does give that chance once more, then brother, there will be a new King!

Q **Dear British Bulldog,**
Given the chance, would you ever arm-wrestle Ahmed Johnson again to show everyone who the strongest man is?

Derek Opert
Brookline, MA

A **I don't need to arm-wrestle that bloody so-called "Superstar" Ahmed Johnson again! I already beat the jerk hands down last time, and I broke his thumb just to let him remember how bad I beat him! If Ahmed wants to feel the bite of the Bulldog again, tell the man to step right up!**



Dear Jose Lothario,
How did you get the nickname of "Super Sock"?

Keith Lagasse
New Britain, CT

Well, Mr. Lagasse, I got that nickname long before I ever started wrestling in Mexico and Texas when I was Shawn Michaels' age! I used to be a boxer, and my opponents gave me that nickname after I showed them what a right and a left from Jose Lothario was like! And if anyone else in the Federation—like Jim Cornette—gets in Shawn Michaels' way, he will also find that out! Adios, compadre!

Dear Stone Cold Steve Austin,
Do you hope that you will eventually get a shot at one of the titles in the World Wrestling Federation? Isn't it time for another chapter of Austin 3:16?

Brad Mallow
Xenia, OH

* * *

Well, SON—and I do mean SON—I'm starting to get tired of all the !@#$% opponents that the puke Federation officials keep pushing in front of me! I keep opening a can of whoopie-!@#$ and they keep eating it! Tell that cartoon character Shawn Michaels that Stone Cold is coming for him... BECAUSE I SAID SO!

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION®

PRO SHOP™

The Stocking Stuffer Collection

A. **Brass Buckle.** Solid brass, bold & big. Pop it on today. *(belt strap not included.)* *00001* $29.90

B. **Sunny CD-Rom calendar and screen saver** keeps your act together. PC only. *06002* $14.90

Arguably the greatest WrestleMania EVER, number XII--Get you piece of history now, while the last. Behind the scenes action seen nowhere else!

C. **The VIDEO** *00007* $39.90

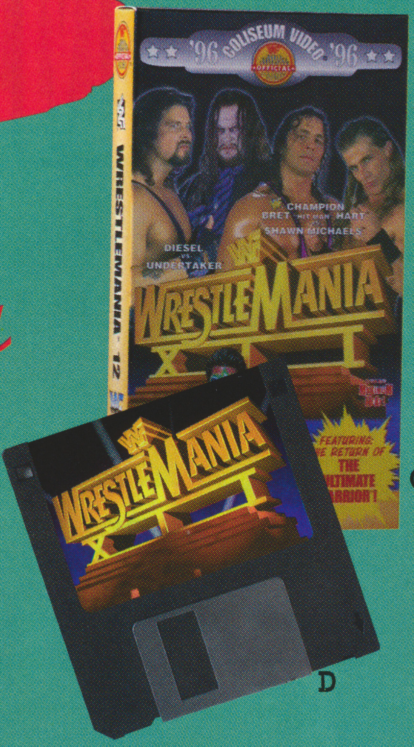
D. **The SCREENSAVER** *00005* $14.90.

E. **Everywhere you go, make it OFFICIAL** with this totally explosive wild shirt. Ash grey. 100% cotton. M L XL XXL *00002* $21.90

F. **Proud to be USA and WWF!!!** All blue 100% cotton tee has become a trademark. M L XL XXL *00003* $19.90

A

WORLD
HEAVYWEIGHT
WRESTLING CHAMPION


'96 COLISEUM VIDEO '96
DIESEL vs UNDERTAKER
CHAMPION BRET "HIT MAN" HART
SHAWN MICHAELS
WRESTLEMANIA XII
FEATURING: THE RETURN OF THE ULTIMATE WARRIOR!
WRESTLEMANIA 12
WRESTLEMANIA XII

C

D

B

CD-ROM CALENDAR & SCREENSAVER
WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION
SUNNY

E

OFFICIAL
XL
TEE
Back Design for official tee

F

CALL TO ORDER 1•815•734•1156 (7:30–10:30 CST)

Send to: WWF Pro Shop, P. O. Box 744, Mt. Morris, IL 61054

Name

Address

City /

State, Zip

METHOD OF PAYMENT ☐ Check/Money Order ☐ MC ☐ VISA

/

Account Number/Expiration Date

Cardholder's Signature

Don't forget–for every $35 you spend, you get $2 in Slambucks!! Use these "Bucks" for discounts on more great stuff from the World Wrestling Federation ProShop!!!

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION
ONE

Item#	Size	Qty.	Total

Shipping & Handling

Order Totals	USA	Canada
up to $20	$5	$8
$21–$50	$7	$9
$51–$75	$9	$11
$76–$100	$11	$13

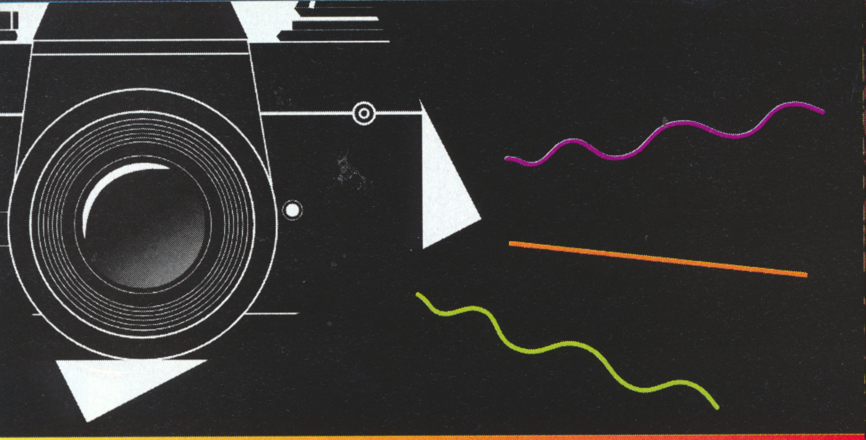
Shipping & Handling (see chart at left)

New York residents add 8.25% sales tax

TOTAL

DO NOT SEND CASH. Please allow 4-6 weeks delivery. Canadian orders must be Visa/MasteCard in U.S. Dollars or check and money order with U.S. branch office printed on the checks only. All orders must include an additional 7% GST tax.

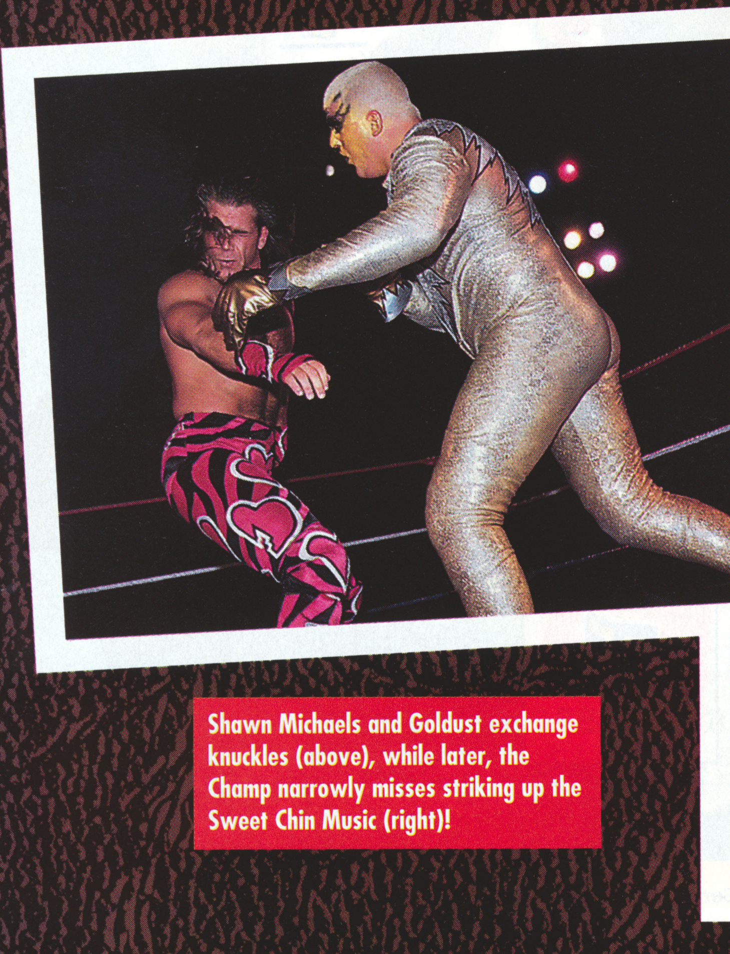
©1996 TitanSports, Inc. All rights reserved.

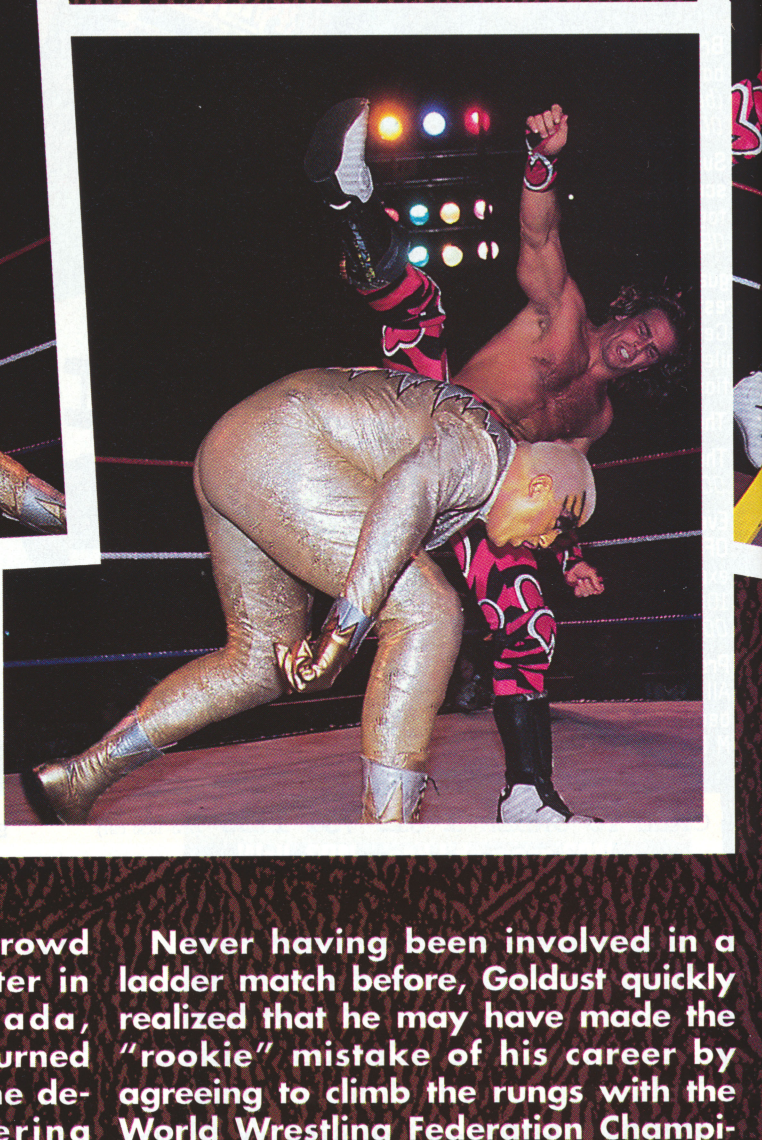


private eye

CLIMBING TO

PHOTOS BY
TOM BUCHANAN





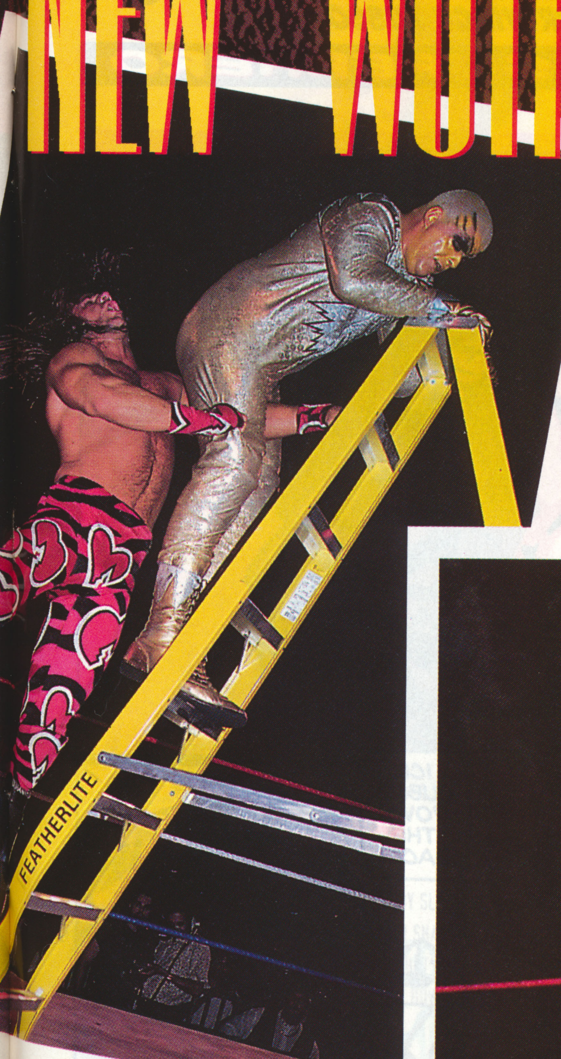
Shawn Michaels and Goldust exchange knuckles (above), while later, the Champ narrowly misses striking up the Sweet Chin Music (right)!

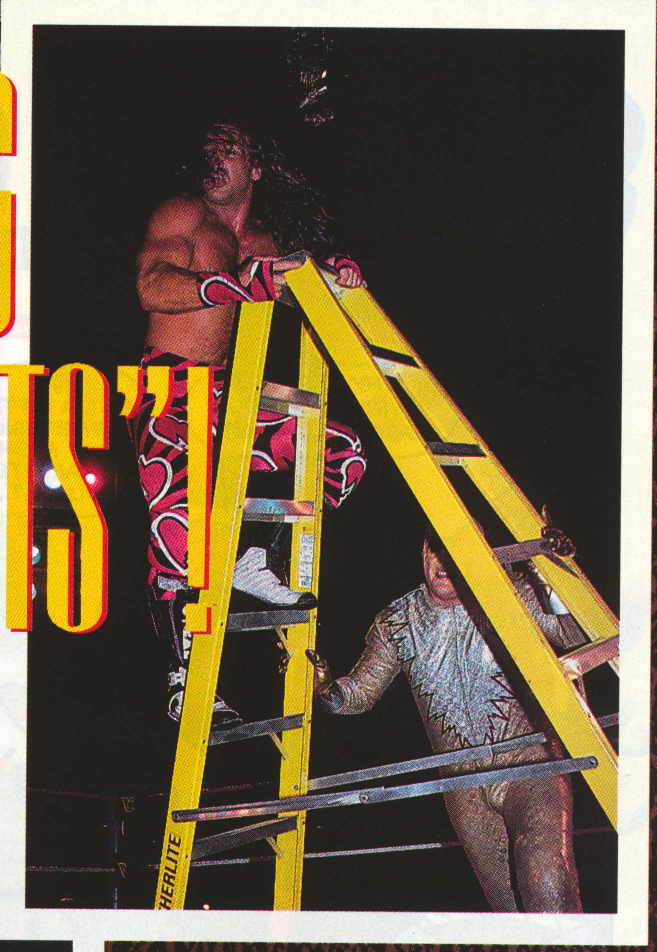
Recently, before a sell-out crowd of 37,000 at the CNE Center in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, Goldust's "reel" fantasies turned into his "real" tragedy, when he decided to climb to "Wuthering Heights" with the Heartbreak Kid Shawn Michaels.

Never having been involved in a ladder match before, Goldust quickly realized that he may have made the "rookie" mistake of his career by agreeing to climb the rungs with the World Wrestling Federation Champion, in quest of his prestigious title.

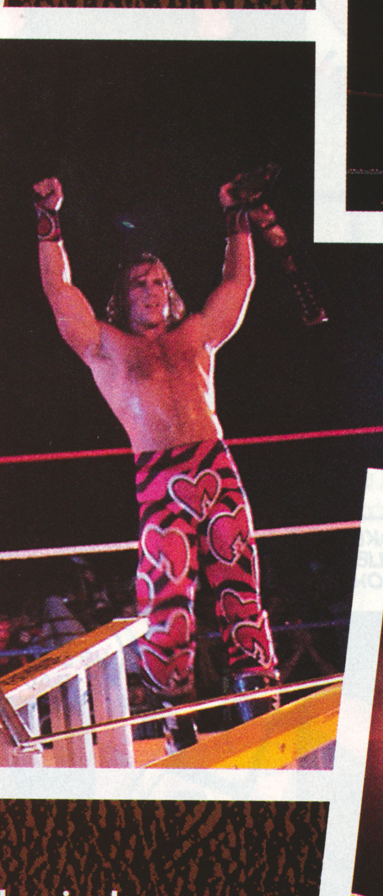
Despite gaining an early advan-

NEW "WUTHERING HEIGHTS"!

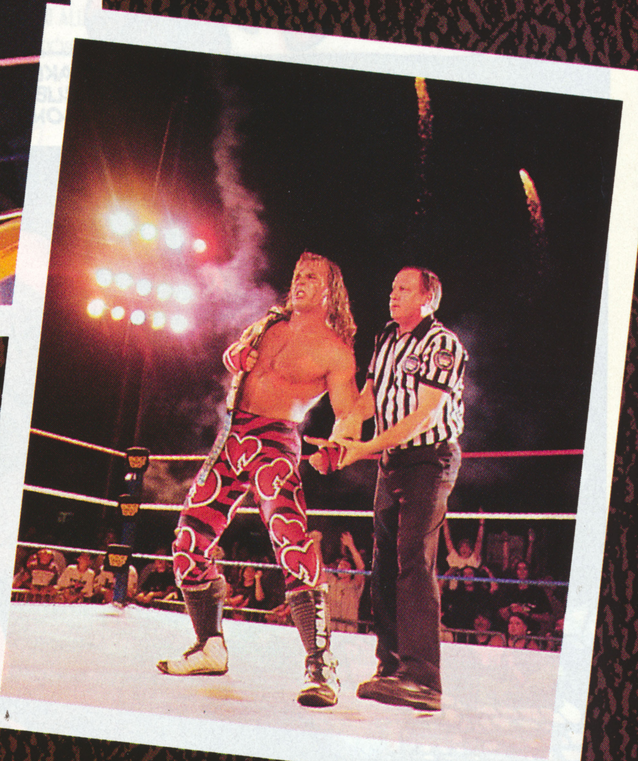




It's a bird... it's a plane... it's Shawn about to take the plunge (above), courtesy of Goldust! Moments later, the "King of the Iron Rungs" celebrates after Goldust's Championship dreams turn to dust (below right)!



A brutal game of Chutes and Ladders for the Gold (above); as the ladder topples, the Heartbreak Kid still stands (right).



tage, courtesy of his usual mind games, it was only a matter of time before the "Master of the Metallic Mountain" dropped the "Golden One" 10 feet down.

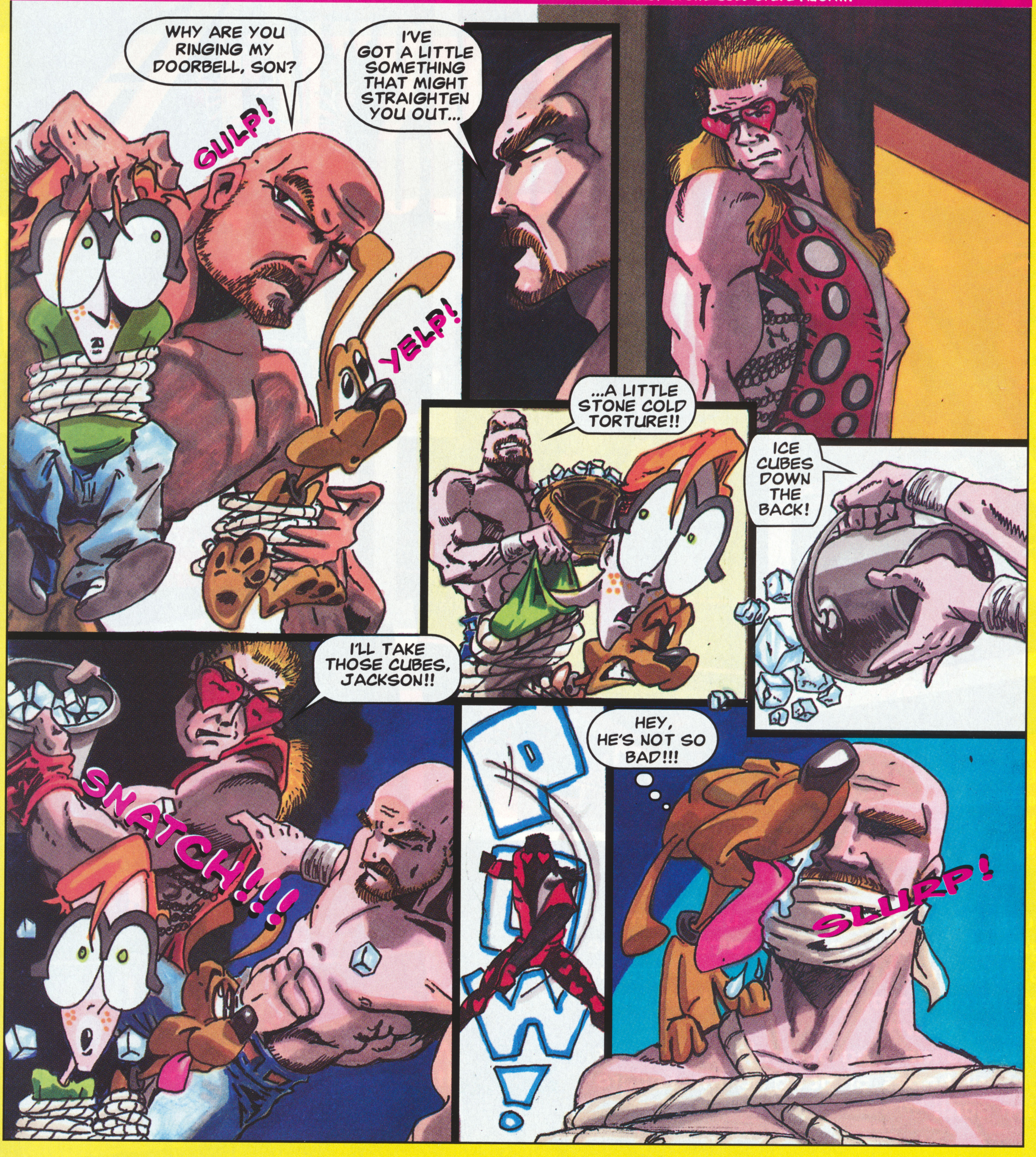
Thus shattering not only his dreams, but all hopes of bagging the Federation gold! WF

SCOOP SULLIVAN

ARTIST HOWARD M. COLBERT
WRITER VINCE RUSSO

SQUARED CIRCLE SUPERHERO

WHEN WE LAST LEFT SCOOP SULLIVAN, HE WAS BEING HELD CAPTIVE BY STONE COLD STEVE AUSTIN.

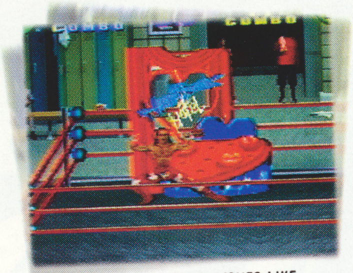

WHY ARE YOU RINGING MY DOORBELL, SON?
GULP!
YELP!
I'VE GOT A LITTLE SOMETHING THAT MIGHT STRAIGHTEN YOU OUT...
...A LITTLE STONE COLD TORTURE!!
ICE CUBES DOWN THE BACK!
I'LL TAKE THOSE CUBES, JACKSON!!
SNATCH!!!
POW!
HEY, HE'S NOT SO BAD!!!
SLURP!

THIS MONTH'S SECRET SUPERSTAR IS: MARC MERO

THERE GOES THE NEIGHBORHOOD!

10 BODY SLAMMIN', RING-WRECKING WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION SUPERSTARS! FROM THE GENDER-BENDING GOLDUST™ TO THE HEARTBREAK KID SHAWN MICHAELS,™ WWF IN YOUR HOUSE IS BRINGING ON THE KILLER-COMBO, COMBAT CARNAGE YOU CRAVE! EXPERIENCE A WHOLE NEW LEVEL OF HURT WITH ALL-NEW, PERSONALIZED VENUES AND GADGETS FROM THE UNDERTAKER'S™ MAUSOLEUM TO OWEN HART'S™ GIANT CARD! CHOW DOWN ON POWER-UPS FOR HEALTH, SPEED AND STRENGTH AND BOW DOWN TO ALL NEW SUPER-PIN "FATALITY" MOVES! WWF IN YOUR HOUSE IS A 10-MAN WRECKING CREW...AND THEY'VE GOT YOUR ADDRESS!

THE BRITISH BULLDOG TAKES A BITE OUT OF THE UNDERTAKER!



ALL-NEW FINISHING MOVES LIKE SHAWN'S HEARTBREAK HOTEL!

WWF® IN your House™

THE ULTIMATE IN OUT-OF-THE-RING ACTION!

COMBO
COMBO
COMBO
SHAWN

THE MORE THE MERRIER WITH MULTI-PLAYER ACTION!

PLAYSTATION™ SEGA SATURN™ DOS CD-ROM

KIDS TO ADULTS K-A CONTENT RATED BY ESRB

OFFICIAL WWF LICENSED PRODUCT

World Wrestling Federation and its logos are trademarks of TitanSports, Inc. © 1996 TitanSports, Inc. All Rights Reserved. PlayStation and the "PS" logo are trademarks of Sony Computer Entertainment, Inc. Sega and Sega Saturn are trademarks of SEGA ENTERPRISES, LTD. All rights reserved. Acclaim is a division and registered trademark of Acclaim Entertainment, Inc. ® & © 1996 Acclaim Entertainment, Inc. All rights reserved. Screen shots shown are taken from the PlayStation version of the video game.

Acclaim
entertainment, inc.
www.acclaimnation.com

REBOUND 4X4™

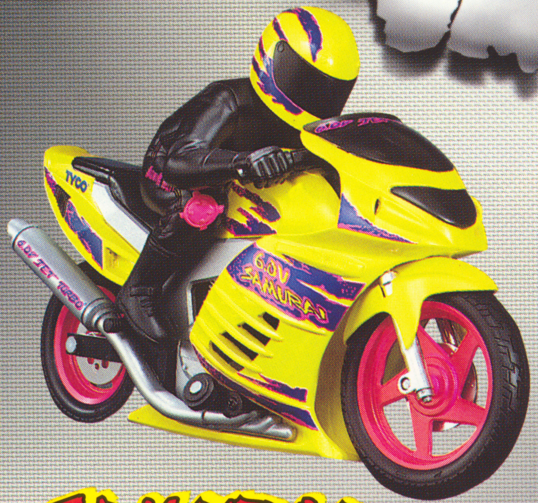
In this corner, the Rebound! A flippable machine that delivers major stunts and unstoppable action with 4-wheel drive power and speed! 6.0V Jet Turbo® power!

DAGGER™

In this corner, the Dagger! A three wheeled dragster with attitude. Tune in various stunts with the adjustable 6-position stunt shifter. 6.0V Jet Turbo® power!

TEAR UP THE RING!

With Tyco® R/C Maximum Heat!™ The Bad Boys of Radio Control!



SAMURAI

In this corner, it's the 6.0V Samurai! This is one crazy-mad motorcycle that's built for racing performance and stunt action! 6.0V Jet Turbo® power!

MUTATOR™

In this corner, Mutator! Watch closely as it transforms from one bad stunt machine to another! 9.6V Turbo® power!

TYCO®

©1996 TYCO INDUSTRIES, INC. TYCO is a registered trademark of Tyco Investment Corp.
Various other characters copyrights and trademarks are used under license. Dagger is a licensed mark of Landmark Entertainment Group.